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## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: 10 SPIN OFFS FROM UNIVERSITIES GATHERED IN U4I - UNIVERSITY FOR INNOVATION AT 2021 'BORSA DELLA RICERCA' IN SALERNO

**What characterizes the academic spin offs, born within the universities of Bergamo, Milano-Bicocca and Pavia, is the strong drive for innovation.**

### PRESS RELEASE

Milan, Nov. 8, 2021 - From Artificial Intelligence to mechatronics, from chemistry to social, innovation is the minimum common denominator. **There are 10 spin offs born within the three founding universities of U4I-University for Innovation** (the foundation linked to innovative projects to which the Universities of Bergamo, Milano-Bicocca and Pavia belong) **that participated in the 2021 "Borsa della Ricerca" in Salerno.** The initiative - organized in late October by Fondazione Emblema in collaboration with the University of Salerno and with the support of the Regione Campania - is now in its 12th edition: designed to foster contact between the world of university research (groups, departments, spin offs), startups, companies, incubators and investors (public and private). It proposed an original interaction format made up of meetings, on and offline events, and sharing moments that can facilitate technology transfer and economic support for research. This year it involved 60 companies multinationals, delegations from 30 universities from 14 regions of Italy and 120 spin-offs and startups, for a total of more than 1,000 meetings between researchers and companies.

**A significant achievement for the three universities and for U4I, whose mission focuses precisely on fostering the development of innovative ideas and the growth of spin offs born within the departments of the three universities.**

Coming from the University of Milan-Bicocca there are: **Red OPEN**, with expertise in CyberLaw, data protection and organizational processes, engaged in the challenges opened by Transition 4.0 and Artificial Intelligence. **Bambini Bicocca**, an innovative startup with a social vocation that provides public and private entities with consulting related to childcare centers, educational initiatives and innovative services for families of children from 0 to 6 years old. **Graftonica** deals with products and services in the plastics and rubber sector (in particular the study and preparation of prototypes based on nano- and micro-polymeric composites for the electronics, automotive, construction and medical), while **Imaging and Vision Solution** of Artificial Intelligence, Deep Learning, Computer Vision and Machine Learning.

Linked to the University of Bergamo, on the other hand, are **Mdquadro**, which focuses on the development of systems mechatronics with a high level of innovation and technological content, **Exolvia**, which deals with Asset Management, with research activities related to industrial maintenance management and after-sales services, and **ArgoChem**, which works on the development of chemical products and their industrial application, such as for the protection of surfaces and materials (including with the preparation of hybrid, organic-inorganic surface coatings with special properties: water repellent, flame retardant, antibacterial, anti-corrosion).

From the University of Pavia, finally, comes **Bac3Gel**: its technology makes it possible to reproduce in vitro a wide range of different patterns of human mucus (lung, intestinal, stomach, vaginal) under both physiological and pathological conditions to detect the growth and maintenance conditions of bacterial strains and for the drug



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screening. The focus of **BioReSTART** is on the recovery of bioactive substances and compounds contained in waste botanicals for use in the food supplement industry, in cosmetics and for the production of phytopharmaceuticals natural. **P4P** specializes in the design and manufacture of materials that can release controlled and customizable bioactive molecules, including a porous polymer with an interconnected internal structure conceived for applications in the pharmaceutical field in order to make drug delivery systems modulating, in a customized manner, the release of the active ingredients incorporated within it.

"For all the companies present, 'Borsa della Ricerca' 2021 proved to be an excellent opportunity to meet, an opportunity to establish contacts and exchange useful elements for developing new ideas,' emphasises **Prof. Hermes Giberti**, Managing Director of U4I and Rector's delegate for technology transfer at the University of Pavia - Having facilitated the participation of 10 spin-offs in an event of this type confirms U4I's focus on the process of accompanying innovative projects: the areas of application of the companies created within the universities of Bergamo, Milano-Bicocca and Pavia are very different from each other, but the lowest common denominator is innovation. The aim of participating in this and many other similar initiatives is to make concrete and tangible the transition from intuition to application, from an idea to a project that has important practical effects".

Available to the press interested in learning more about their profile and activities are the contacts of the spin-offs of the three universities that participated in the 2021 'Research Exchange', as well as those of the three Universities of Bergamo, Milano-Bicocca and Pavia that are part of U4I - University For Innovation for more information on the initiatives promoted by the Foundation.

**University For Innovation FOUNDATION IS.** Fondazione U4I - University For Innovation is the gateway access to the market for innovations born within the three founding universities: University of Bergamo, University of Milan - Bicocca and University of Pavia. Since 2017 it has been the strategic partner of the three universities in technology transfer activities, a bridge between research and the market. By promoting and encouraging research and development of innovative products and processes, selected from the Innovation Project Fund IPF, it promotes the encounter between university research, enterprise and the market: the proposals that best meet the market needs are transformed into successful products and investments.

U4I Foundation is responsible for identifying the most innovative research projects with high commercial and social potential that arise within the three partner universities (Bergamo, Milano-Bicocca, Pavia); support the innovators in covering research and development costs to make the transition from pre-seed to proof of concept to the market; facilitate the protection of the intellectual property of the three founding universities; create relations with companies and follow the process towards patenting new technologies, also through the creation of spin-offs. For more information on the U4I Foundation: [info@u4i.it](mailto:info@u4i.it)

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