



Bet on Pennsylvania!

During CrossInnov 2008 Edition in Sophia Antipolis, awards were won by start-up companies like TxCell, who will receive support to establish a presence in Pennsylvania.

Everyone has heard of the main bio-clusters in the US: the Boston area and California. But, in Europe and, especially France, no one is aware of Pennsylvania's dynamics.

During the business convention CrossInnov 2008, the economic development agency, Team Cote d'Azur, and Innovation Development International Services (IDIS) Consulting Company set up a special side event called **Innovation Stars** for innovative companies interested in establishing a presence in the US.

The first prize was service incorporation by Pepper Hamilton, the second was office space provided by the Science Center incubator, and the third was a market survey by Select Greater Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania is definitely the right spot

Establishment and cost of living is very affordable; academies and there is a diverse amount of academies and industries.

Specific criteria

To be a candidate for **Innovation Stars**, specific criteria are required like companies have to have a proven revenue model, a mature management, as well as technological and IP assessment of the company.

Candidates have been selected by a jury, of which, some were Americans. Entrepreneurs had to present their companies to an audience -Prizes were delivered last April 24th.

The winners were TxCell (1st prize), UD Cast (2nd prize) and Vu Log (3rd prize). David Dellamonica, *Director* for TXCell is very happy to be supported by the law firm Pepper Hamilton for the consulting and incorporation of their US operations. TxCell is specialized in autologous cell therapy – their main objectives are: manufacturing overseas.

They are definitely thinking about moving in the US, but have not yet decided between Philadelphia and Boston.