

## International Renewable Energy Technology Institute Will Soon Call Minnesota Home

On April 3, 2008, Sweden's International Renewable Energy Technology Institute (IRETI) Organization Committee announced that Minnesota will be one of three sites to host a world-class renewable energy technology institute in partnership with Sweden.

IRETI is a component of U.S. Ambassador to Sweden, Michael Wood's initiative, "The One Big Thing." This initiative is designed to enhance the economic relationship that exists between Sweden and the United States through the transfer of renewable energy technology. "Sweden is quite advanced when it comes to the application of technology to create renewable energy. This relationship would allow Sweden's progressive industries to

support and strengthen our own," Dale Wahlstrom, CEO of BioBusiness Alliance™ stated.

Minnesota State University, Mankato will house IRETI. Minnesota State, Mankato was selected as the site for IRETI because of its current capabilities and mission to support renewable energy technology.

Other states involved with IRETI include Georgia and New York. IRETI wanted a collaboration between the states based on their collective strengths and capabilities.

BioBusiness Alliance's newest staff member, Johan Hult, a Swedish native with a background in biotechnology, will be contributing to the outcome and success of IRETI.

## A Word from Dale

*Dale Wahlstrom is the CEO and Chair of The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota.*



Greetings from the BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota™. It is my privilege to announce the release of our first newsletter, *The BioBulletin*.

Founded in 2005, the BioBusiness Alliance™ is an industry-led, action-based nonprofit organization that is seeking to understand and grow Minnesota's bioscience industry knowledge and know-how.

BioBusiness Alliance™ is excited to communicate our developing projects and important messages in this quarterly newsletter. Future issues will feature our three initiatives: Statewide Industry Assessment, Destination 2025 and the Minnesota Bio-Business Resource Network™.

On behalf of all of our volunteers and staff, I hope this newsletter will make it easier for you, our stakeholders, to remain engaged with our organization. We hope you find our projects and information valuable as we work to grow Minnesota's economy through the biosciences.

To learn more about the BioBusiness Alliance™, contact Melissa Kjolsing at 952-746-3844 or at [mkjolsing@biobusinessalliance.org](mailto:mkjolsing@biobusinessalliance.org).



The BioBusiness Alliance  
of Minnesota™

## BIO 2008: The Global Event for Biotechnology

BIO 2008 is one of the bioscience industry's elite conferences. The annual conference focuses on all applications of biotech from agriculture to renewable energy to human health. The international conference is hosted by the Biotechnology Industry Organization. This year, the conference will take place in San Diego, California.

Jeremy Lenz, BioBusiness Alliance's Vice President of Operations, is working with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, LifeScience Alley, Mayo Clinic and other partners to focus the presentation on Minnesota's biotechnology

strengths. "We are featuring Minnesota's assets, strengths and capabilities through the Minnesota Pavilion. We want to represent Minnesota as a state rather than individual cities or communities. This way, Minnesota will be better able to position its bioscience capabilities in the global economy," Lenz said. "We are also very pleased that the Minnesota Pavilion will be made mostly of renewable materials."

If you are interested or have questions about the Minnesota Pavilion contact Jo Iverson at 651-259-7165 or go to [www.bio2008.com](http://www.bio2008.com) for more information.

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# BioBusiness Alliance's Three Strategic Initiatives

The BioBusiness Alliance™ has three ongoing strategic initiatives. The Statewide Industry Assessment and Destination 2025 are two initiatives that define where we are and where we need to go, collectively creating a long-term strategy for our organization and state. The BioBusiness Resource Network™ is an ongoing support system that represents the core of the organization. It is the execution arm of the BioBusiness Alliance and provides project leadership and support to companies.

**The Statewide Industry Assessment, *BioBusiness: Minnesota's Present Position and Future Prospects*** was published in 2006. It is a broad study used as a benchmark for Minnesota's bioscience and biobusiness capabilities.

You can download a copy of the assessment from our web site at [www.biobusinessalliance.org/assessment/](http://www.biobusinessalliance.org/assessment/).

**Destination 2025** is a statewide project that examines the long-term comprehensive position of Minnesota's bioscience industries. The BioBusiness Alliance™ is working with Deloitte Consulting to create a series of white papers, vision documents and a road map for Minnesota that will be published later this year and into 2009.

**The Minnesota BioBusiness Resource Network™ (BRN)** is a network of service providers, capabilities and resources to support bioscience companies looking to start-up, relocate or expand in Minnesota. The BRN also focuses on infrastructure projects that

fills gaps in Minnesota's core strengths. To date, the BRN has received over 150 requests for support. The BRN has assisted companies in finding laboratory space, funding, strategic partners, distribution channels and legal services, among others.

To make a contribution that improves Minnesota's economic well-being through building the bioscience industry, retaining and creating jobs and positioning Minnesota as a global leader in biobusiness, contact:

**Alan Spillers**  
**Director of Development**  
**952-746-3845**  
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## The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota's Life Science Community Project: *Strengthening Minnesota through your Community*

As an offshoot of the BioBusiness Alliance's Minnesota BioBusiness Resource Network™ (BRN), the Minnesota Life Science Community (LSC) project is utilizing a common platform and set of definitions to create a shared understanding and language of the biosciences.

Traveling to a dozen regions around Minnesota, BioBusiness Alliance™ staff has engaged over one hundred of the state's top regional experts to build one of the most robust inventories of Minnesota's biobusiness capabilities to date.

In partnership with the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation and McKnight Foundation, BioBusiness

Alliance is moving quickly to capitalize for Minnesota on the rapidly expanding and evolving bioscience fields.

What do we hope will come of this effort? In addition to strengthening regional knowledge about existing biobusiness capabilities, we are working to elevate the overall understanding and awareness of Minnesota's biobusiness capabilities.

A shared language is the first objective. The second objective of the project is to then create a corner-to-corner, comprehensive, transparent dataset of Minnesota's biobusiness assets.

The corner-to-corner and comprehensive goals are being met through meeting face-to-face with regional

leaders. To address the challenge of transparency, BioBusiness Alliance is leveraging Google Earth as an internet-based mapping technology.

In what we believe will be the first of its kind, the prototype website will utilize the shared LSC platform and definitions to categorize Minnesota's assets and then map them to the specific street address. So far, over 500 new biobusiness assets have been added to approximately 1500 previously known assets.

Look for more information coming soon about the launch of this exciting new asset which will be showcased in the Minnesota Pavilion at BIO 2008 trade show in San Diego.