

EIP



EIP attend business events in Bath

EIP attorneys recently attended a number of business events in Bath.

Ex-Dragon and entrepreneur Doug Richard gave a keynote speech at the launch of Bath Ventures Commercialisation Campaign for 2011 on 15 June. He spoke about the importance of intellectual property, even for those who ultimately aim to distribute products or materials for free. He explained that without a licensing framework, for example based on patented technology or copyright material, it was difficult to set conditions for use. This risked exploitation. He also emphasised the importance of a good team in any entrepreneurial enterprise. The event provided an excellent opportunity for the academic and business communities of Bath to mix.

Ken Rumph of Nomura Code gave an enlightening presentation on investment in the cleantech sector for Low Carbon Southwest on 21 June. He explained how investors were wary of subsidised sectors such as solar in an era of reduced government spending. However, sectors such as water and waste with little subsidisation offered opportunities. He interestingly noted that even when automobile manufacturers asked for government assistance during the recession they did not ask for reduced regulation. This demonstrates how in certain areas increased regulation can be beneficial for the environment, innovation and business. Ken's presentation was followed by a talk from Barry Lowen, a Director of UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) in India. He spoke of the opportunities presented by the country and how UKTI were available to help UK firms enter into business there. He explained how India's demographic (a large proportion of the population are under 25) and democratic characteristics provide a potent combination for high future growth.

Bath Ventures is an offshoot of the University of Bath responsible for capitalising on university research.

Low Carbon Southwest is a trade association promoting the growth of the environmental technologies and services sector in the South West.