



## **NIDUS PARTNERS EXPANDS ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAM Executive Leadership Joins to Commercialize Energy Technologies**

ST. LOUIS (Dec. 2, 2011) – [Nidus Partners LP](#) (Nidus) today announced that it has expanded its Entrepreneur-in-Residence program, adding three high-level business leaders to its team to identify and commercialize innovative energy technologies.

Joining the Nidus team are: John P. McAlister, former president & CEO of [Tripos, Inc.](#), Michael Ott, former executive director of [BIOWA](#) in Iowa City, and Michael Berezo, formerly VP Business Operations of [Solutia](#)'s Performance Films Division and General Manager, Integrated Nylon, a \$1.4 billion global business.

Nidus Partners' Entrepreneur-in-Residence program attracts proven business leaders with successful track records commercializing emerging technologies. Initially, entrepreneurs join the Nidus team to help screen and evaluate early-stage energy technologies. But the real attraction is the next step when they take on a leadership role and an equity stake in one of the high potential technologies selected for a Nidus investment.

St. Louis County's Helix Fund, which funds start-ups and entrepreneurial talent in St. Louis, granted \$100,000 to Nidus to support the Entrepreneur-in-Residence program.

Launched in Sept., 2010, Nidus takes a novel approach to commercialization by using a select group of corporate partners to identify market opportunities and experienced entrepreneurs to find and advance technologies that address these market needs.

Nidus' current corporate partners are: Denmark-based [Novozymes](#), a world leader in bioinnovation, [Bunge Limited](#) (NYSE:BG), a leading global agribusiness and food company, (NYSE:BG) and [Monsanto Company](#) (NYSE:MON), a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products that improve farm productivity and food quality.

To date, Nidus has reviewed hundreds of technologies resulting in three start-ups: [Electrochaea LLC](#), Six Convert LLC and Xtend Energy.

“With this kind of talent, we have high expectations that we’ll continue to successfully identify and commercialize high potential, transformative energy technologies,” said Vicki Gonzalez, Managing Partner of Nidus Partners.

Several current Nidus Entrepreneurs-in-Residence have already taken leadership roles in Nidus start-up companies. For example, Jeff Fornero is now on the management team of Electrochaea LLC, leading the engineering efforts to commercialize its ground-breaking renewable natural gas technology.

Fornero, who received his Ph.D. in Energy, Environmental and Chemical Engineering from [Washington University in St. Louis](#), came to Nidus with 20 years of engineering experience at Shell Oil.

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### **About Nidus Partners, L.P.**

Nidus Partners LP is a unique collaboration between proven entrepreneurs and strategic corporations who, together, are commercializing renewable, sustainable and transformative energy technologies. By identifying and commercializing early-stage energy innovations, Nidus creates sustainable businesses that provide a competitive advantage to its select partners. For more information, please visit <http://www.niduspartners.com> or follow our business on [www.twitter.com/NidusPartners](http://www.twitter.com/NidusPartners)

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