

Innovation Campus in Oro Valley to serve High-Tech, Bioscience businesses

Anthem Equity Group to build a high-tech Innovation Campus in Rancho Vistoso, Oro Valley, Arizona

Excerpts from

Arizona Daily Star SN www.azstarnet.com

January 26, 2012 By Dale Quinn



Anthem Equity Group Inc. announced Wednesday its plans to move forward with a 15-acre "Innovation Campus" at the northwest corner of East Rancho Vistoso Boulevard and East Vistoso Commerce Loop Road.

Plans call for the 160,000 square foot campus to include bioscience research and development companies, emerging technology businesses, medical-device manufacturers and suppliers to those industries, Anthem Equity said in its news release.

Four 20,000-square-foot buildings - each 36 feet tall - will be built first. Those buildings will house laboratories, manufacturing and warehousing. The construction of ten 8,000-square-foot high-tech office buildings will follow, the company said.

The property sits next to Oro Valley's Innovation Park - where French drugmaker Sanofi-Aventis and Ventana Medical Systems, which is a part of the Roche Group - already have facilities.

When it comes to attracting tenants, many high-tech companies are eager to have operations near companies like Sanofi and Ventana, said Diana Dessy, Anthem's designated broker and property and operations manager. **"Businesses that are selected into this park will be important to creating a campus of colleges in high-tech industries. This collaborative environment isn't for everyone. It's no ordinary industrial park," Dessy said.**

Anthem's managing partners include Rodger Ford, the former CEO of SynCardia Systems Inc., and David Mackstaller, a SynCardia vice president.

Robert Davis, a broker with Grubb & Ellis who handles leasing at Innovation Park, said there is a need for additional speculative high-tech space in Oro Valley.