UBC IMPACT TECHNOLOGIES

Licensed UBC discoveries have led to products, services and treatments that have generated $11.5 billion in sales.

QLT Inc.
Dr. Julia Levy and Dr. David Dolphin
Photodynamic Compound (1981)
$4.1 billion
Global Sales of Invention

QLT was founded by UBC faculty Dr. Levy and Dr. Dolphin in 1981 to further their discovery of a drug capable of killing retinal cells when exposed to light (photodynamic pharmacologic therapy). QLT developed Visudyne as the first effective treatment for macular degeneration, the leading cause of blindness in the elderly.

WebCT
Dr. Murray Goldberg
WebCT: An Environment for Authoring Web-based Courses (1995)
$700 million
Global Sales of Invention

WebCT is an online learning environment system used by over 2,500 colleges and universities in over 80 countries. Institutions were able to add educational content and tools such as discussion boards, orientation tools, and link to their course. At its peak, WebCT was used by over 10 million students annually.

OSIWare Inc.
Dr. Gerald Neufeld
$300 million
Global Sales of Invention

OSIWare Inc. was a Vancouver start-up that developed and sold software invented by Dr. Neufeld at UBC for routing and processing email. The software was instrumental in tying together diverse email servers at institutions, controlling spam, and doing real-time address information for more than a dozen proprietary systems into a universal format.

Enwave Corporation
Dr. Tim Durance
Vacuwave Microwave Dehydration Technology (1994)
$160 million
Global Sales of Invention

Enwave Corporation offers industrial-scale dehydration technology for food and pharmaceutical industries. Centrifugal acceleration dries efficiently, low-temperature processing and is the new global dehydration standard. Faster, cheaper and cleaner than freeze drying, with better quality end products.

Cardiome
Dr. Michael Walker
Treatments for Anti-Arrhythmic and Anaesthetic Uses (1991)
$220 million
Global Sales of Invention

Cardiome developed the drug vernakalant based on a discovery at UBC to treat abnormal heart rhythms associated with heart disease and high blood pressure.

Angiotech Inc.
Dr. Helen Burt
Drug-Loaded Surgical Implants (1994)
$480 million
Global Sales of Invention

Angiotech was purchased in 2007 by Sanofi for $2.2 billion for its drug delivery platform. Angiotech developed the drug delivery platform based on discoveries at UBC with the help of a team of international researchers.

TIR Systems
Dr. Lorna Whitehead
Prism Light Guide (1978)
$200 million
Global Sales of Invention

TIR Systems was the first company to commercialize solid state lighting technology, such as LEDs, with the goal of replacing conventional lighting, reducing energy usage and improving the environment. The company was purchased in 2007 by Philips.

Paragon Testing Enterprises
Dr. Don Wolinsky
Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program, CELPIP (1999)
$120 million
Global Sales of Invention

Paragon was founded to deliver English language proficiency tests developed at UBC. Two of thousands of their standardized tests are now delivered annually at more than 70 test centers worldwide.

Mira Geoscience
Dr. Doug Oldenburg
Geophysical Modeling Software for the Mining Sector (1992)
$30 million
Global Sales of Invention

The software developed at UBC integrates many different forms of geological data in order to provide 3D models of ore bodies.