



PRESS RELEASE

## Anaconda Biomed and Mind the Byte win 2018 Biosuccess Award

The prize, awarded yearly by CataloniaBio & HealthTech, recognises the most important business milestones in biomedicine and health in Catalonia

The ceremony took place yesterday during the CataloniaBio & HealthTech Gala Dinner, before more than 200 entrepreneurs, executives and investors

*Barcelona, 9 March 2018* – Yesterday, CataloniaBio & HealthTech awarded the 2018 Biosuccess Award recognising the most important business milestones in biomedicine and health in Catalonia to Anaconda Biomed and Mind the Byte.

The ceremony took place during the CataloniaBio & HealthTech Gala Dinner at the Museu Marítim of Barcelona, featuring president of CataloniaBio & HealthTech, **Jaume Amat**; CEO of ACCIÓ, **Joan Romero**; director general for Research and Innovation in Health, **Albert Barberà**; and over 200 entrepreneurs, executives and investors from the sector.

Anaconda Biomed, founded by **Dr Ofir Arad and Dr Marc Ribó** in 2015 to develop a disruptive technology for endovascular treatment of stroke, closed the largest round of investment in 2017: €15 million. The company's slogan is: It's about time, it's about life.

Additionally, bioinformatics firm Mind the Byte, founded by **Alfons Nonell-Canals**, acquired Intelligent Pharma, its main competitor. Mind the Byte develops and supplies latest-generation software for drug discovery using technology based on artificial intelligence and big data, and is currently expanding internationally and looking to go public in the near future.

“The Biosuccess Award represents this courage that we want to encourage over the coming years based on three pillars: innovation as a driving force for change, entrepreneurship as an attitude, and the network as the structure for work,” noted Jaume Amat.

The event also recognised the former presidents of CataloniaBio, Ignasi Biosca, and the HealthTech Cluster, Albert Gallart, for their work guiding the two organisations towards the merger. ACCIÓ CEO Joan Romero highlights that “Creating CataloniaBio & HealthTech by



merging the two organisations is essential because it brings together a highly significant part of the value chain in the life sciences sector and fosters cooperation between business and science in a sector that is key to the Catalan economy.” “At ACCIÓ we have a firm desire to continue working with the organisation, which has shown itself to be a clear example of converging sectors and a key pillar to continue growing and adapting to the needs of the future,” he explains.

### **Official presentation of the new board**

At the event, the association also officially presented its new board (2018-2022), comprising **Jaume Amat** (Specipig) as president, **Lluís Chico** (NEOS Surgery) as first vice-president, **Maribel Bergés** (Spherium Biomed) as second vice-president, **Àngel Alonso** (Vecmedical) as third vice-president, and members **Isabel Amat** (Reig Jofre), **Albert Giralt** (Avinent), **Alfons Nonell-Canals** (Mind the Byte), **Montserrat Vendrell** (Alta Life Sciences), **Lídia Cánovas** (Asphalion), **Judit Anido** (Mosaic Biomedicals), **Eduard Valentí** (Esteve) and **Joan Vila-Masana** (Hospital Clinic).

### **About CataloniaBio & HealthTech**

CataloniaBio & HealthTech is the new entity after the merger of CataloniaBio and HealthTech Cluster that represents more than 150 companies, as well as collaborating stakeholders such as hospitals, research centres and universities that are leaders in R&D in biomedicine. The headquarters will be located at the [Barcelona Science Park](#).

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