

Queensland's newest export factory opens

Queensland Science and Innovation Minister Ian Walker today officially opened Bioproton's new export factory and laboratory in Acacia Ridge.

The \$4.5 million building is a state of the art facility that will transform the biotechnology industry in Queensland.

Minister Walker said it's a fantastic investment that will expand the science related companies that call Queensland home.

"Bioproton is a Brisbane based agri-technology firm, which has grown from a humble start-up firm to today employing 15 staff," Mr Walker said.

"This is a fantastic example of a home grown company that is turning great ideas into great opportunities.

"Bioproton is a true Queensland success story, exporting their feed enzyme products to over 40 countries," Mr Walker said.

Today's opening was the culmination of long-held ambitions to bring together the production and research activities of Bioproton into a single purpose built location, with new production lines and a fully equipped laboratory.

It will also serve as a hub for Australian and international research and commercial development of biotechnology; enabling collaboration between research and commercial partner, such as Bioproton's long-standing research program with The University of Queensland.

Bioproton General Manager Henrik von Hellens thanked his team and partners designing, constructing and commissioning the facility.

"We operate in global markets and therefore need to continue to invest in research and facilities so we can continue to succeed in the international marketplace," Mr Henrik von Hellens said.

"The immediate benefits are the ability to manufacture our products with shorter lead-time, improved quality control and higher efficiency.

“In the longer-term, the facility will enable us to work collaboratively with partners from academia, research and industry to introduce new science based technologies that will help reduce environmental impact and costs.”

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NOTE TO EDITORS

- Bioproton is an Australian based biotechnology company with specialty in Feed Enzymes. Founded in 1984 in Finland, but in 1993 relocated to Brisbane, Australia. Production and R&D facilities are in Brisbane. Currently Bioproton exports feed enzyme formulations to over +40 countries and employ 15 staff.
- Enzymes have been added to animal feed since 1980s to improve animal digestion leading to better economical, health and environmental outcomes.
- Global enzyme use in animal feed is ~USD600M with 10% per annum growth
- Global enzyme use in all industries is expected to grow to \$ USD6 Billion by 2016 and growing 10% per annum.