

Benson Hill BioSystems

Demonstrates the impact of BioGenerator's early investment of capital, role as an active lead investor that provides due diligence to other seed investors, and ongoing commitment to supporting the company through multiple early rounds of financing.

Introduction

Benson Hill Biosystems was founded by experienced industry executive Matthew B. Crisp and leading scientists from the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center (DDPSC). The company seeks to ensure sustainability of the world's food supplies by combining plant biology, data analytics and cloud computing. Benson Hill has raised ~\$35M from top venture investors and employs >70 people in a rapidly growing company.

Early Support and Seed Financing

BioGenerator supported the relocation of Benson Hill's principal operations to St. Louis. BioGenerator led an initial seed financing for the company in 2013, and went on to make two additional investments to support the company's growth. BioGenerator's due diligence package was important in securing critical side-by-side investors in the early stages of the company's maturation. BioGenerator Vice President Dan Broderick served on the company's Board of Directors until substantial institutional capital was secured. BioGenerator has invested a total of ~\$600K in Benson Hill.

Current Snapshot

Benson Hill has grown rapidly since BioGenerator's first investment, raising Series A, B and C rounds of financing, expanding its core platform to include new assets and offerings to strategic partners, and continuing to bring on new talent.

"BioGenerator played a critical role in leading our initial financing - putting together the due diligence and orchestrating additional investors. Their commitment to supporting Benson Hill BioSystems in multiple ways beyond their share of invested capital is part of the reason we are excited to call St. Louis home."

Matthew B. Crisp, Co-Founder & CEO, Benson Hill

"BioGenerator's model has helped grow companies like Benson Hill Biosystems into quality, highly-attractive investments for venture investors."

Scott Horner, Ph.D., Managing Director, Middleland Capital

OBJECTIVES

- Enable commercialization of world class research at the DDPSC
- Advance new technology to increase the efficiency of food production, thereby providing benefit to mankind
- Enable advancement of new company

SOLUTION

- BioGenerator's Agtech network made possible the recruitment of Benson Hill to St. Louis
- Initial seed funding and lead role in early investment syndication enabled Benson Hill to advance initial technology demonstration
- Active board of directors role and assistance raising side-by-side and follow-on capital

RESULTS TO DATE

- Company has raised a total of \$95M in Seed, Series A, Series B and Series C financing rounds
- Team has grown to >70 employees as core technology platform, new assets, and strategic partnerships expanded
- Rapidly growing company with significant potential for economic upside