

## Investment Proposal

To develop Herpes treatment using Laser therapy and Smart Phone apps for control

Organization Name: EkoMed SIA Registration Nr. LV4360302255 Nov. 11th, 2004

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Additional Information: http://eko-med.lv/

Form of Business: Medical Devices

Areas of expertise: Herpes Treatment Low-intensity laser treatments

Objectives: To develop and market the SmartLaser low-intensity laser for herpes treatment.

Pay-Back Period 3 years

Funding Requirement: Phase 1: €300,000 (development) Phase 2: €275,000 (production, marketing & sales

Use of funds Product Development Working Capital

Interest on loan/investment: 15 % budgeted

A comprehensive business and financial plan is currently not available. An approximate budget is available. This proposal refers to the development, manufacture and distribution of a Smart Phone controlled home-use herpes treatment low-intensity laser therapy device.

## The OPPORTUNITY -

The cost of laser technology has significantly decreased in recent years allowing it to be an economical alternative to drug therapy as well as a practical home-use device, while the development of Smart Phone apps provide a unique control and data-collection feature not previously available. Herpes is a wide-spread infection which an be controlled or cured with this technology.

The Company and the Developer: - EkoMed is the official distributor of low-intensity laser therapy devices and its owner and developer of the SmartLaser is Dr Maris Belte who has extensive experience in working with professional low-intensity lasers manufactured by other manufacturers, and is an expert in the field.

**The Benefits:** - One of the main advantages of the product is the patented solution that the laser is controlled with the help of smartphone applications through a wireless connection. This provides targeted, individualized and precise treatment for each individual patient, as well as disease monitoring capabilities in the long term. This in turn provides feedback and develops customer databases which creates additional marketing opportunities. It also allows allocating codes to applications that allow for rewarding those promoting the application.

**Sources of Income:** - Income will be derived through the sale of the SmartLaser at a cost of €180 plus applicable VAT through facilities of the medical profession and distributors, through the internet, and via direct marketing firm representatives selling cosmetic products.

**The Requirement:** - EkoMed requires a strategic partner or investor who will finance the development of the product until cash flow is established from these operations. A loan or investment of **€575,000** is required to cover development expenses, office expenses, promotion and working capital.

**The Rewards:** The payback period for the **€575,000** loan/investment is at the end of the second full operating year, with a cash surplus of €10,100,000 after 5 years. 15% is budgeted for the full loan/investment. Equity shares are negotiable.



## 1 FORWARD

SmartLaser is a low intensity hand-held laser used for herpes treatment in the home environment. It is a compact and safe medical device developed based on scientific discoveries and clinical research in the field of laser therapy. The SmartLaser provides not only rapid and effective treatment of the herpes sore, thus reducing pain and cosmetic defects, but significantly increases the reoccurrence time until the next herpes sore formation. This is especially important for patients who suffer from frequent herpetic occurrences. Laser operation is provided by a mobile application and is a unique solution in the field of laser therapy. This provides an additional competitive advantage.

One prototype has been produced for trial purposes.

EkoMed is the official distributor of low-intensity laser therapy devices and its owner and developer of the SmartLaser is Dr Maris Belte who has extensive experience in working with professional low-intensity lasers manufactured by other manufacturers, and is an expert in the field.

The fact is that the costs of diode lasers are tending to decrease and therefore becoming practical for home use.

Clinical studies have demonstrated that low-intensity laser therapy is highly effective.

It is intended to produce and distribute the SmartLaser in the European Union.

Project objectives include:

- 1. Produce SmartLaser industrial prototypes and patent the design
- 2. Develop the SmartLaser control application and patent the application
- 3. Complete SmartLaser CE clinical testing and register in the medical devices registry
- 4. Launch production
- 5. Launch distribution

EkoMed seeks a strategic partner or investor to develop the SmartLaser and launch the product in the appropriate market.

€575,000 funding is required to set up a permanent office and hire personnel to develop the application and to implement a marketing program.





## 2 THE ORGANIZATION

EkoMed (<u>http://eko-med.lv/</u>), established on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004, is the official distributor of low-intensity laser therapy devices manufactured by Treatlite of Sweden and Konftec of Taiwan. It's office is located in the centre of Riga, the capital of Latvia.

The product developer and Managing Director of EkoMed is Dr Maris Belte who has extensive experience in working with professional low-intensity lasers manufactured by other manufacturers. He is a specialist in the field of laser therapy, has lectured extensively on laser therapy and is the author of several publications.

EkoMed currently employs one person, and is located in temporary facilities.

EkoMed has been involved in the sale of other products such as food supplements and "chillows", but these have met with marginal success. However, an evaluation of the market and developments in technology have lead EkoMed to focus on low-intensity laser therapy for herpes treatment. Treatment for other indications is also possible, but because of the potential market size for herpes, other indications will be addressed at a later date.



## 3 ABOUT LATVIA and ECONOMIC FACTORS

#### Location

Latvia is positioned between Russia and central Europe, and as such, is at the geographic centre of northern Europe.

The Riga International Airport is a regional hub facilitating travel and deliveries with convenient connections to the rest of the world and the immediate region. Riga is a central location.





#### Latvia

Latvia regained its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 and began the difficult process of converting from a planned to a free market economy. In the mid 90's, Latvia was experiencing the challenges of economic transition, including multiple banking crises, economic boycotts by Russia, unfamiliarity with western (particularly European) practices and politically-related development issues. Latvia is a western state that abides by EU regulations, having joined the European Union and NATO in 2004. This provides a more stable and predictable foundation.

#### The Economy

In 2009 there was a significant economic downturn because of the world economic crisis. In 2010, the government of Latvia initiated austerity programs as demanded by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). These measures have resulted in the stabilization of the Latvian economy and have led to growth since late 2011 – despite debt problems in the Eurozone. Latvia joined the € in January 2014 and Latvia's credit rating continues to be upgraded along with comments about its positive outlook. As at 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015, Standard & Poor's credit rating for Latvia stands at A-. Moody's rating for Latvia sovereign debt is A3. Fitch's credit rating for Latvia is A-.



Latvia has benefited from its history with established traditions in banking, manufacturing, education and development that provide the foundations for future growth and development, but shares strong ties with both Russia and the west.

Latvia has favourable company tax rates of 15%. There are no restrictions on the repatriation of profits or the transfer of funds from the country. Latvian tax laws favours investment and allow Latvia to compete favourably with "off-shore" companies.

#### Advantages of working in Latvia

Latvia is in the European Union and borders the CIS, and so is well positioned to serve both.

Low labour costs and a skilled labour force provide a decided financial advantage of operating in Latvia.

There is a possibility for EU financing for development projects, but projects must I be based on private funding in the initial stages.

Latvia has the  $5^{th}$  fastest Internet in the world (July 2013 data) with average peak broadband speed 140 % faster than the global average.

For further information see http://www.liaa.gov.lv/about/latvia-facts.



## 4 TARGET MARKET

### **About Herpes**

Herpes infections are very widespread. Up to 90% of the world population is infected with HSV1 or HSV2 (Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 or type 2). Of those infected, a third show outward symptoms. Herpes infections have three main clinical forms –

- 1) Herpes labile, or cold sores. This is a rash, usually on the lips, which is not only very painful and unpleasant, but also a real cosmetic defect. Often when the herpes rash heals, scars remain for the rest of a person's life.
- 2) Genital Herpes a rash on the genitals, which can significantly degrade the sexual quality of life.
- 3) Herpes zoster, or shingles. This is a rash on the peripheral nerves and usually involves the intercostal nerves. This is very painful and localized on the chest. If not treated, post-herpetic neuralgia, a complication, can develop. This severe chronic pain can persist for years.

At least 100 million people suffer from herpes in the European Union.

### Market Characteristics / potential customers

SmartLaser will be certified and marketed in the European Union.

The European Union has 507 million inhabitants. The age group between 15 and 65 years of age is 153 million women (target group), and 154 million men. 90% of the population is susceptible to the HSV1 or HSV2 virus with the percentage for women being slightly higher than for men. About a third of those infected display significant clinical symptoms and require treatment. Potential customers in the EU is at least 150 million.

The SmartLaser design focuses on women, since women are more concerned about their health and family. Women are also more concerned about their beauty. One must consider that cold sores occur ten times more often than genital herpes. Women tend to be more affected by common herpes, therefore the target audience is 50 million women.



## 5 THE COMPETITION

Competition for SmartLaser includes - specific anti-herpetic medications: Acyclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir and tablets and ointments. Their main disadvantages include limited efficacy and side effects. Medications may have a similar efficacy in the treatment of a herpes infection, but only laser treatment is able to extend the time until the next occurrence. This is especially important in patients who are prone to the herpetic rash. Unlike chemical preparations, low intensity laser has no side effects. Anti-herpetic medication costs for treating a single occurrence can reach up to €50. Treating 4-5 occurrences with Smartlaser pays off. The laser can also be used by all family members.

Laser treatment can also be provided in the doctor's office by a laser specialist. It usually takes 3 to 5 treatments to cure one occurrence. This could cost the patient up to  $\in$ 100. In addition the patient must consider time and travel costs to go to a specialist. Of particular importance is the time factor. The sooner a herpes infection is treated, the better the effect. SmartLaser is always at hand, and it's available when travelling.

Some competitors do offer low-intensity lasers. However, these tend to be either very expensive or they are only available to specialists. Some lack the proper power and/or are ineffective. As an example, Treatlite Active laser from Sweden is priced at €800 as compared to the SmartLaser at €200. Its power and frequency is identical to SmartLaser, but remote control and smartphone options are not available. It is larger and not rechargeable. In the market there are many lasers in the price category from €150 to €250, but their capacity is usually less than 5mW, which is insufficient for the proper clinical effect.

	Famciclovir	Zovirax	BioBeam, India	LaserSmart, Latvia
	Tenchénis STRAY Serres			
Smartphone Control	8	8	8	$\odot$
Online precise guidelines and dosaging	8	(3)	8	•
Online feedback option	8	$\otimes$	8	0
Side effects	8	$\otimes$	$\odot$	٢
Appropriate power (mW)	-	-	65	120
Remission time increasing	8	8	8	٢
Retail Price (EUR)	50 per	30 per	160	200



## 6 MARKETING AND SALES STRATEGY

Although there are numerous applications for low-intensity laser therapy, EkoMed has decided to focus on selected herpes treatment, because a herpes infection is not only a health problem but is also a cosmetic issue.

SmartLaser is intended for distribution in the European Union only. However, Riga, Latvia will be used as a test market to determine the most effective way to market the device. Riga is a regional centre for Northern Europe and as such has major foreign embassies located within a relatively small radius, as well as the nation's government. This means that a relatively affluent population is immediately available.

The following marketing/sales initiates will be initiated:

- 1. Incentives will be offered to the medical professionals / doctors to promote the SmartLaser to their clients.
- 2. Major pharmacies will be approached to carry the SmartLaser.
- 3. Direct marketing sales personnel of companies such as Avon, Babe and Amway will be approach to offer SmartLaser to their clients.
- 4. Experienced medical products distributors will be selected for Latvia, who will eventually be involved in other EU countries.
- 5. The SmartLaser will also be offered over the internet.



## 7 OPERATIONS

### Product / Service General description:

SmartLaser is a medical device designed fast and effective treatment of herpes at home. It will be controlled by a smartphone app.



One of the main advantages of the product is the patented solution that the laser is controlled with the help of smartphone applications through a wireless connection. This provides targeted, individualized and precise treatment for each individual patient, as well as disease monitoring capabilities in the long term. This in turn provides feedback and develops customer databases which creates additional marketing opportunities. It also allows allocating codes to applications that allow for rewarding those promoting the application.

SmartLaser main parameters:

- power 120 mW, 808 nM frequency,
- compact,
- with a cell phone cord easily rechargeable.

The effectivity of LLLT (Low Level Laser Therapy) has been scientifically proven.

Publy	1ed • LLLT herpes
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Sur	mmary - 20 per page - Sorted by Recently Added - Send to: -
Re	sults: 1 to 20 of 26 << First < Prev Page 1 of 2 Next > Last >>
	Photobiomodulation in oral medicine: a review.
1.	Pandeshwar P, Roa MD, Das R, Shastry SP, Kaul R, Srinivasreddy MB. J Investig Clin Dent. 2015 Feb 26. doi: 10.1111/jicd.12148. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25720555 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]
2.	Recurrent Labial Herpes Simplex in Pediatric Dentistry: Low-level Laser Therapy as a Treatment Option.
	Stona P, da Silva Viana E, Dos Santos Pires L, Blessmann Weber JB, Floriani Kramer P. Int J Clin Pediatr Dent. 2014 May;7(2):140-3. doi: 10.5005/jp-journals-10005-1252. Epub 2014 Aug 29. PMID: 25356015 [PubMed] Free PMC Article Related citations



## Development Stage

One unit has been produced for demonstration and testing purposes (without the smartphone app).

The development stage which is expected to be completed in six months will involve:

- the final design of the laser unit,
- the smartphone app,
- the production of 500 demonstration units.

Arrangements have been made with companies involved in the development and production of the SmartLaser.

- SIA ProtLab, Ltd. "Libri Design", SIA MEMORANDUM DESIGN could be involved in the design of the production prototypes.
- SIA Wizard Technology has been selected for the mobile application development.

### **Production Stage**

All production is to be outsourced. Because of the relatively small volumes, initial production runs of the SmartLaser is to be outsourced to SIA Rolands Moisejs or SIA Hansa Electronics.



## 8 KEY PERSONNEL

#### Management:



Dr. Maris Belte is the CEO of EkoMed and product developer of the SmartLaser. He is a 1995 graduate of the Riga Stradins (Medical) University. Dr Belte is also the Chairman of the Medicīnas Biznesa Akadēmija (MBA) / Academy of Medical Business Administration (AMBA). In June 2008, he graduated as a Certified Management Consultant (CMC) with an international certificate from the St Petersburg coaching institute on the topic of "Coaching as a management style of an organization." Currently he serves as a certified psychotherapist at the Riga Stradins University. He acquired substantial experience with the "Berlin-Chemie-

Menarini Group" and "Hoffmann-La Roche before starting his own business in 2002 and provides seminars and corporate training in human resources management as a coach. Dr Belte has extensive experience in working with professional low-intensity lasers manufactured by other manufacturers. He is a specialist in the field of laser therapy, has lectured extensively on laser therapy and is the author of several publications.

Recent publication: The February, 2015 edition of Latvijas Ārsts (Latvian doctor) includes an editorial of laser technology by Dr Belte and is available on request.

#### Advisory board



Roberts Binde, Entrepreneur is currently the Honorary Consul of Columbia and has a distinguished career in various industries including and positions including Vice-Chairman of Getlini Eko. Robert provides advice to EkoMed on business related issues.



Dr. Andris Rubīns graduated from the Riga Medical Institute in 1974. He is a Professor & Doctor in Dermatology and Chairman of the Latvian Association of Dermatovenerology, Riga Stradins University, as well as the President of Latvian Association of Dermatovenerologists and President of Baltic Association of Dermatovenerologists. His main interests include

- Immunopathogenesis and immune therapy of skin diseases
- Approbation and introduction of new drugs in dermatology
- STDs epidemiology, prevention and therapy

#### **Specialists**



Einārs Deksnisis is an Electrical Engineer having graduated from the Riga Technical University with particular strengths in robotics, electronics and microcontrollers. He developed the SmartLaser first prototype and is assisting with further development.



## 9 DEVELOPMENT AND EXIT PLANS

### SWOT Analysis

Strengths:

- An innovative, revolutionary solution
- Growing market
- High added value

#### **Opportunities:**

- SmartLaser inclusion guidelines
- Replace Medicines
- Additional applications

Weaknesses:

- Customer potential fear of laser
- Scepticism against laser efficiency
- The lack of uniform guidelines for laser applications

Threats:

- Competitor imitation
- Regulatory restrictions
- Introduction of new treatment methods.

Activities planned to exploit opportunities and minimize threats

- 1. Patenting
- 2. Be the first to enter the market and position for rapid growth
- 3. To work with universities, research centers and public institutions to promote the application,
- 4. In time, promote other applications for SmartLaser for other indications,

Company could be sold to an industrial investor in 4 years such as:





## 10 FINANCES

## 10.1 Company Financial Information

EkoMed and related company turnover.

	2015 Est.	2014	2013	2012	2011
Turnover	€201,231	€215,725	€420,381	€425,101	€396,028

### 10.2 Project Costs

## Required Capital: €575,000

## 10.3 Source of Funds

Financing Source	Total amount (€)	Percentage (%)
Own Capital	€30,000	5.1%
Grant	€15,000	2.5%
Bank Loan	n/a	
Investor / Ioan	€545,000	92.4%
TOTAL:	€590,000	

### 10.4 First Year - (6 months) Projections - Start-up

	Start-Up by MonthI (€)				Total		
	1	2	3 1	4	5	6	Year
Income							
Income from Sales	-	-	-	18,000	36,000	36,000	90,000
Grants	15,000						15,000
Capital In or Loans	150,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	-	300,000
Capital In or Loans repaid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Income	165,000	50,000	50,000	18,000	86,000	36,000	405,000
Development Costs							
Capital Purchases	103,170	-	-	-	-	-	103,170
Capital Fulcilases	103,170	-	-	-	-	-	103,170
Product Costs							
Production Costs	-	-	-	8,000	16,000	16.000	40.000
Financing Production Costs @5%	-	-	-	400	800	800	2.000
Distribution Costs	-	-	-	7,200	14,400	14,400	36,000
Total Produce Costs	-	-	-	15,600	31,200	31,200	78,000
Overhead							
Personel							
Salaries & Personnel Expenses / Atalgojums	16,800	16.800	16,800	16,800	16,800	16,800	100.800
	10,000	10,000	10,000	.0,000	10,000	10,000	-
Office / Birojs							-
- Rent / Ire	700	700	700	700	700	700	4,200
<ul> <li>Maintenance Costs / Uzturēšana</li> </ul>	225	225	225	225	225	225	1,350
- Communications / Sakari	190	190	190	190	190	190	1,140
- Subscriptions / Abonementi	-	-	48	48	48	48	192
<ul> <li>Office supplies / Biroja Izdevumi</li> </ul>	35	35	35	35	35	35	210
- Bank Charges and Fees	50	50	50	50	50	50	300
- Legal fees	500	500	500	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,500
- Transportation costs/ transporta izmaksas	500	500	500	500	500	500	3,000
Unanticipated / Neparedzētie izdevumi	200	200	200	200	200	200	1.200
	200	200	200	200	200	200	1,200
Marketing / Marketings	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	60,000
			·				
Financing Fees	7,500	2,500	2,500	-	2,500	-	15,000
Interest Expenses / Procenti par aizdevumu	1,875	2,500	3,125	3,125	3,750	3,750	18,125
Total Overhead	38,575	34,200	34,873	32,873	35,998	33,498	210,017
Total Cash Out	141,745	34,200	34,873	48,473	67,198	64,698	391,187
Surplus / Defecit	23,255	15,800	15,127	- 30,473	18,802	- 28,698	13,813
Cash Flow	23,255	15,800	15,127	- 30,473	18,802	- 28,698	13,813
Opening Balance		23,255	39,055	54,182	23,709	42,511	
Closing Balance	23,255	39,055	54,182	23,709	42,511	13,813	



## 10.5 Five Year Forecast

	5 Year Forecast (€)				
	Start (6m)	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Income					
Income from Sales	90,000	1,260,000	6,300,000	18,900,000	63,000,000
	,	.,,_,	-,,	,,	,,
Grants	15,000				
Capital In or Loans	300,000	275,000			
Capital In or Loans repaid	-		-450,000	-125,000	
Total Income	405,000	1,535,000	5,850,000	18,775,000	63,000,000
Development Costs					
Capital Purchases	103,170	-	-	-	-
•					
Product Costs					
Production Costs	40,000	560,000	2,800,000	8,400,000	28,000,000
Financing Production Costs @5%	2,000	28,000	140,000	420,000	1,400,000
Distribution Costs	36,000	504,000	2,520,000	7,560,000	25,200,000
Total Produce Costs	78,000	1,092,000	5,460,000	16,380,000	54,600,000
Overhead					
Personel					
	100,800	201,600	201,600	201,600	201,600
Salaries & Personnel Expenses / Atalgojums	100,800	201,000	201,000	201,000	201,000
Office / Birojs					
- Rent / Īre	4,200	8,400	8,400	8,400	8,400
- Maintenance Costs / Uzturēšana	1,350	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700
- Communications / Sakari	1,140	2,280	2,280	2,280	2,280
- Subscriptions / Abonementi	192	384	384	384	384
- Office supplies / Biroja Izdevumi	210	420	420	420	420
- Bank Charges and Fees	300	600	600	600	600
- Legal fees	4,500	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
- Transportation costs/ transporta izmaksas	3,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
· · ·					
Unanticipated / Neparedzētie izdevumi	1,200	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
Marketing / Marketings	60,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
Financing Fees	15,000	13,750	-	-	-
Interest Expenses / Procenti par aizdevumu	18,125	86,250	18,750	-	0
Total Overhead	210,017	453,784	372,534	353,784	353,784
Total Cash Out	391,187	1,545,784	5,832,534	16,733,784	54,953,784
Surplus / Defecit	13,813	- 10,784	17,466	2,041,216	8,046,216
	10.015	10 70 1	17 100	0.044.045	0.040.015
Cash Flow	13,813		17,466	2,041,216	8,046,216
Opening Balance	40.040	13,813	3,029	20,495	2,061,711
Closing Balance	13,813	3,029	20,495	2,061,711	10,107,927



#### **10.6** Detailed Costs

#### **Unit Cost**

SmartLaser retail price Latvian medical products 12% VAT, final price to the consumer	€180.00 + VA €201.60	٩T
LaserSmart production cost Distributor costs up to 40% (Cost of Sales) Contribution per SmartLaser	€80.00 €72.00 €28.00	

#### Phase One Financials:

This innovation is classed in Latvia under the "Manufacturing, especially computer, electronic and optical products" category, and hence, there is a possibility of receiving financial support. The project is to be implemented in Riga.

Development costs for first six months, which are eligible for funding:

Development Costs	
1. Industrial design development	8,000
2. Website Development	2,000
3. Mobile Apps Development	18,000
4.CE conformity assessment	2,000
5. Medical device registration	500
6. The patent costs EU	700
VAT for eligible costs	7,371
Contingenct @ 20%	7,714
Total Development Costs	46,285
Grant funding (80% but not more than EUR 15 000, -)	15,000

Use of Funds explanation for eligible costs for grant

- Nr. Eligible Cost Description
- 1. Prototype: ProtLab Ogre provides prototyping services. Alternative LLC "Libri Design" or SIA MEMORANDUM DESIGN.
- 2. Website development: SIA Wizard Technology, Alternative SIA Microsoft Latvia
- 3. Mobile Apps setup: Wizard Technology Ltd. Alternative Microsoft Latvia SIA
- 4. Conformity assessment CE certification: AS "Inspecta Latvia"
- 5. Medical device registration Latvian State Agency of Medicines
- 6. Patenting Latvian Patent Board
- 7. Accounting services SIA SIMOSIS
- 8. Office space rental

#### **Projected Unit Production:**

	5 Year Sales Forecast					
	Start Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year					
SmartLaser Unit Production	500	7,000	35,000	105,000	350,000	

### Personnel

This project involves the addition of the following jobs and their categories, not including those in the production and sales & marketing sectors:

- 112 001 Managing Director
- 243102 Advertising Manager
- 312203 Production Manager
- 334104 Clerk



Financial data is presented in the local Latvian currency, the Euro.

Exchange rates as of December 2, 2015 are:

•	1.00 EUR	=	\$1.0570 US
٠	1.00 EUR	=	\$1.4120 CAD
•	1.00 EUR	=	£0.70832 GBP

## **Contact Information**

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