

Keeping all RBX Group Stakeholders Informed

Note from the Managing Director

A time of highs and lows! It is with a heavy heart that we bode farewell to Craig Chambers, who has worked with RB for 17 years, as he and his family move to New Zealand. We wish them well.

At the same time the growth that RB has experienced over the recent seasons has necessitated a change in structure. We are very pleased to announce that Sean Thackeray has been appointed to the position of Chief Commercial Officer covering sales, communication, regulatory and research. Sean's contribution as Business Development Manager over the last 5 years has been invaluable and we congratulate him on this well-earned promotion.

Cheers - Rob

RB & Collaborators defend key patent

As a grower-owned organisation focused on impact rather than profit maximisation, it's easy to underestimate the fierce competition and profit focus in the agricultural input market, locally and abroad that we operate in. A key part of RB's long-term future is our virus pipeline and the CrpeNPV, a novel baculovirus, will be a cornerstone product.

The identification of this novel virus was a combination of research activities in collaboration with Rhodes University (RU), Citrus Research International (CRI), and RB. The CrpeNPV is so unique that a global PCT was filed, and subsequently regional and country-specific patent applications followed around the world. Obviously, these sort of activities do not come cheap with large monetary costs and resource allocation to support a major project like this.

Whilst there was celebration over being granted a patent in Europe for the CrpeNPV for its' use as a biopesticide, this was unfortunately short-lived as a major virus manufacturer in Europe challenged

the patent on various fronts.

The resultant process of defending our patent in the EU has once again illustrated the world-class scientists in RU, CRI & RB. The team was able to stand behind their initial filings and managed to counter all arguments put forward by the challenging party. The result was that all challenges were dismissed with the patent standing as granted. This is a major win for all collaborators involved and reinforces our commitment to sound science driving our innovation pipeline.

Thanks to all those who were involved and hopefully we can now get back to being focused on delivering value to farmers rather than wasting time around hearing dates and submission deadlines.



Team spirit showcased at the Corporate Ironman in PE. Well done to all who participated!



RBX Group National Staff Meeting

The RBX Group hosted our National Staff Meeting on 30 March where we discussed the changes that our company will be making due to the significant growth we have experienced. All our staff were in attendance across SA and we once again celebrated great achievements.

[Click here to watch the full event](#)

April Birthdays

Lazani Barnard, Peter Basson, Ntombentsha Befile, Warren Botha, Lee-Anne Carolus, Martin Fransman, Jeanette Kent, Jeanetta Laubser, Monrezo Meyer, Nceba Ngquse, Zelmari Persens, Enrich Scholtz, Nomazotsho Tatsi, Ruben Terblanche, Marius Tsobo, Redawaan Valentyn, Grayzill Van Wyk, Emile Williams

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