

In its 15th year Business still brews at EDC Incbator

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The Next Generation - Current Tenants

Antibody Research Corp: This immunotechnology company has been in a business since 2005 at the business incubator. If you're wondering what immunotechnology is, it involves the research and manufacturing of antibodies, which are used for medical diagnostics and disease treatment.

Das Prayaga, who has worked at Pfizer and other biotechnology companies, says that antibodies aren't used just for bioterror testing or clinical applications, but also in agrosience to test foods for contamination.

In the last five years, he says, there has been a 40 percent increase in antibodies approved for sale. Currently, 21 antibodies have approval.

At the same time that approval has increased, so has the swath of application methods. Drugs fighting inflammatory diseases and cancer have increasingly used antibody technology.

With such a technology-heavy industry, Prayaga credits the EDC's training courses and availability of facilities for his laboratory as key to success.

Prayaga works with such companies as Monsanto, Millipore, Washington University and the Danforth Plant science center.

"In another couple of years I will expand outside of the incubator, but I'll probably still be located in St. Charles," Prayaga said of expansion and the business climate in St. Charles County.