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Executive Office, City of Providence, Rhode Island

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MAYOR

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PRESS RELEASE

MAYOR CICILLINE, BUSINESS LEADERS WELCOME NEWEST EMPLOYER TO THE KNOWLEDGE DISTRICT

**Isis Biopolymer, a pioneer in transdermal drug delivery, to be a catalyst for job growth in
the Knowledge District**

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David N. Cicilline joined business and educational leaders for a ribbon cutting and tour of the Knowledge District's newest employer – Isis Biopolymer, a developer of cutting-edge medical devices. Isis Biopolymer, which moved its company to Providence from Warwick, pioneered the first-of-its-kind personalized, ultra-thin Isis Patch that enables medical professionals to accurately control and monitor the delivery of drugs through the skin.



Founded in 2006 and led by a veteran team of experienced entrepreneurs and scientists with expertise in medical devices and design, Isis Biopolymer currently employs 30 people and plans to hire additional employees as quickly as the company expands.

“As the Knowledge District emerges as the jobs center of Providence, Isis Biopolymer is an excellent example of the type of innovative entrepreneurs who will help to grow our economy and expand our tax base,” said Mayor Cicilline. “There is a real synergy happening in the Knowledge District that is helping to shape the future of our 21st-century economy and make Providence a model of innovation and entrepreneurship.”

Isis Biopolymer outgrew its space in Warwick, according to CEO & Chief Technology Officer Emma A. Durand, and, as it searched for a new location, was approached by several other Rhode Island cities and towns hoping to lure the company to their communities. Durand said she was excited by what was happening in the Knowledge District and by its close proximity to Brown University and Lifespan. Durand stressed the move to Providence would not have been possible without assistance from the City of Providence.

“Isis Biopolymer is one of the first companies to relocate to the newly created Knowledge District,” said Emma A. Durand, CEO & Chief Technology Officer. “We made the decision to conduct Research & Development for the IsisIQ Transdermal Drug Delivery patch right here in Providence and are providing jobs as well as new life for what was once known as the ‘Jewelry District’. Thanks to the City of Providence and Brown University, Isis will be a catalyst for growth in attracting other life science companies to Providence, Rhode Island.”

“Isis Biopolymer’s decision to come to Providence and to make a sizable investment in our emerging Knowledge District has enormous implications,” said Laurie White, president of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. “It signals that Providence is fast developing a reputation for working aggressively to fuel entrepreneurially-driven economic growth. The Chamber congratulates the talented team at Isis Biopolymer and applauds the focused work of Mayor Cicilline and the bold initiative of Brown University in making it happen quickly. Embracing opportunity in rapid fashion is what it’s all about in today’s economic development circles.”

Durand led Mayor Cicilline, business leaders, representatives from the [Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce](#), [Brown University](#) and [Lifespan](#) on a tour of Isis Biopolymer’s research and development facility on Richmond Street. During the tour, the group observed the fabrication of the Isis Patch, which was developed for clients in the pharmaceutical industry throughout the country. The bandage-like patch is a fully programmable, active patch that controls and monitors transdermal (through the skin) drug delivery ensuring safe and accurate administration.

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