“Incubating Software Start-ups at Oxford University: 2 Years, 26 Ventures and what we’ve learned so far...”

Isis Innovation has an outstanding record of commercialisation of Intellectual Property (IP) from the University of Oxford. This includes helping University researchers establish a steady stream of spin-out companies where Isis’ role involves attracting competent CEO’s and management teams and supportive investors to exploit IP in a dedicated venture. But some ventures, in particular in the software field, do not fit into the typical spin-out model. The Isis Software Incubator (ISI) has been designed to support these ventures and has successfully done 26 ventures to date.

In this talk, Roy Azoulay (pictured below), Incubator Manager at Isis Innovation will cover the model under which the ISI operates, how it is differentiated from the typical academic spin-out model, the lessons learned through it over the past 2 years, and some examples of the very different ventures that came through the ISI during this period.

Date: 1st November 2013
Time: 10 – 11am
Location: Invent DCU

After completing undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and Physics, Roy Azoulay joined embedded Israeli security start-up Discretix Technologies leading a team of software engineers to deliver innovative security solutions to tier-1 multinationals. Roy next completed an MBA from Oxford University’s Said Business School, during which time he acted as Portfolio Manager for the school’s venture fund, monitoring the fund’s existing investments and leading a seed investment in travel search engine ‘Zoombu’ (acquired by SkyScanner, Jan 2011). Roy won a competitive Isis-SBS Fellowship working with the Isis Innovation Technology Transfer group to formulate a strategy for software commercialisation. He joined Isis as a permanent Technology Transfer Manager in January 2010 managing a diverse portfolio of commercialisation projects and the Isis Software Incubator from its inception in mid 2011 to its current stage having incubated 26 ventures to date.