

## Entrepreneurial ID «venture leaders» 2010



**Name:** Hicham Majd, PhD

**Contact:** [hicham@labseed.com](mailto:hicham@labseed.com), +41 76 548 8448

**Project/ Company name:** MYcoat / labseed Sàrl

**Short description:** Labseed developed "MYcoat™", an innovative technology that reduces scarring around implanted medical devices.

**Web site:** [www.labseed.com](http://www.labseed.com)

**Industry:** Medtech

### The Start-up

**Status :** labseed Sàrl (Established September 2009)

**Company / team size:** 2

#### Description:



Medical devices of all materials, when implanted, induce the formation of a capsule around them that manifest as hard tissue contractions. Capsular contraction significantly increases patients' mortality and costs for the health care system, being one of the major causes for implant failure and replacement.

*No effective strategy is clinically available to prevent capsular contraction.*

labseed is a story of an engineer (Dr. Hicham Majd) and a doctor (Dr. Giorgio Pietramaggiori), two completely different backgrounds, sharing the same vision of using technology for addressing unsolved clinical problems.

labseed invented a coating which completely suppresses the formation of fibrous tissue around all kinds of implantable devices: MYcoat™. This coating will reduce the pain suffered by patients and increases the functionality, longevity and cost-effectiveness of medical devices. labseed's approach combines medical, chemical, biological and micro-engineering expertise.



#### Business model and partnering strategy:

labseed positions itself as an I.P. company partnering with established implantable medical device manufacturers. Selected partners will receive the license to use MYcoat™ technology in association with their devices. Depending on the type of agreement (exclusive or not, minimal number of units coated/year, geographical restrictions, acquired clinical approval or not, duration) royalties and technology transfer fees will be negotiated. Marketing will be carried out by labseed individually and in close cooperation with the partnering companies.

### The venture leader (and his team)

Hicham Majd, MS, PhD is co-founder and director of engineering of labseed. Dr. Majd is responsible for all the technical aspects of the invention being expert in biomaterials and surface micro-engineering. Dr. Majd has a proven track record in technology innovation, with already 3 international patents filed and one book chapter. Dr. Majd worked as R&D engineer in the Orthopedic Research Laboratory at EPFL for over 2 years where he was responsible for the development of the prototype of a device that increases by 10-folds cell growth including stem cells. During this period, he fulfilled the mission to transform a good idea into a real product. Dr. Majd has received his Master degree in Micro-Engineering in 2002 and his PhD in Biotechnology and Bioengineering in 2008 at EPFL.

Dr. Majd research effort is focused on developing new products aiming to make the difference for patients suffering from several pathologies still without a cure. This process will pass by the development of new technology and then by the transfer of this technology from the laboratory to the market. In this optic, Dr. Majd co-founded with Dr. Pietramaggiori labseed Sàrl, startup developing a strategy combining biology, engineering and microtechnology expertise to face a clinically relevant problem, such as encapsulation of implanted medical devices. This problem crosses many fields of medicine and surgery and it is still unsolved.

**Key team member of labseed:** Giorgio Pietramaggiori, MD, PhD is co-founder and clinical director of labseed, responsible for the translational aspects of the invention and expert in wound healing.