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PRESS RELEASE

**From the Laboratory to the Global Market: Aristotle University
Showcases Two Technology Success Stories at Aristotle Innovation
Forum 2026**

Thessaloniki, 13 May 2026

The connection between university research and the international technology market, as well as the transformation of innovation into business success, will take center stage at a special event of the Aristotle Innovation Forum 2026.

The event is organized by the Technology Transfer and Innovation Unit and the WALK Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center of Aristotle University. It will take place on Tuesday, 19 May 2026, from 15:00 to 16:00, at the “Emilios Riadis” Hall of HELEXPO, and will present two notable examples of collaboration between university research and the high-tech industry.

The talks aim to highlight the work of academics from the School of Informatics of Aristotle University, who successfully transformed their research activities into international collaborations and business applications with a significant impact on the technology sector.

The first talk is titled “**The Story of the Collaboration with Celestial AI.**” Professor Nikolaos Pleros of the School of Informatics will present the collaboration journey between the Wireless and Photonic Systems and Networks (Win.Phos) research group of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Innovation (CIRI) at Aristotle University and the American artificial intelligence company Celestial AI.

Professor Pleros, the scientific lead of the group, published the laboratory’s research results, attracting the interest of Celestial AI. The collaboration led to the establishment of a subsidiary in Thessaloniki and to the multi-year development of prototypes that will enter the commercial market in 2026. The project represents a

unique example of technology transfer in Greece, combining substantial funding, access to cutting-edge prototypes, and international recognition for Aristotle University.

The second talk is titled **“From Academic Research to Industrial Success: ThinkSilicon’s Journey to Acquisition.”** Associate Professor Georgios Keramidas of the School of Informatics at Aristotle University will discuss the acquisition of ThinkSilicon by the American technology giant Applied Materials, one of the most significant acquisitions of a Greek deep-tech company.

The team is led by Professor Keramidas, who previously served as Head of Research and Technology at ThinkSilicon. ThinkSilicon stands as a characteristic example of the successful connection between Greek academic research and the international technology industry, having developed globally impactful innovations in microprocessors and artificial intelligence. Despite its acquisition by the American technology giant in 2020, the company maintained its research and development operations in Greece, with facilities in Patras and Athens.

The Aristotle Innovation Forum — one of the most dynamic innovation forums in Southeastern Europe — is organized by Aristotle University from 17 to 23 May 2026.

The AIF is held under the auspices of His Excellency the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Konstantinos An. Tasoulas, with the support of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, the Municipality of Thessaloniki, and the Region of Central Macedonia. The Thessaloniki International Exhibition serves as a strategic partner, while PPC and Piraeus Bank are among the major sponsors.

The event is open to the public.

More information about the Aristotle Innovation Forum:

<https://aristotleforum.auth.gr/>

Short biography of Professor Pleros: <https://cnss.csd.auth.gr/cnssstaff/pleros-nikolaos/>

More information about Professor Pleros’s talk:

<https://aristotleforum.auth.gr/events/nikolaos-pleros-the-celestial-ai-collaboration-story-organized-by-the-auth-technology-transfer-office-walk-auth-innovation-accelerator/>

More information about Professor Keramidas’s talk:

<https://aristotleforum.auth.gr/events/george-keramidas-linking-industry-with-academia-the-thinksilicon-journey-to-acquisition-organized-by-the-auth-technology-transfer-office-walk-auth-innovation-accelerator/>

We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.