

Ministry of SMEs and Startups **Press Release**

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	Rachel Minjo Chun	044-204-7104
	Spokesperson for Foreign Media	rachelmchun@korea.kr
Contact	Yujeong Kim	
	Assistant Director	044-204-7106

The Ministry of SMEs and Startups held a discussion with Dassault Systèmes to explore potential areas of cooperation in the startup sector

Minister Lee Young of SMEs and Startups met with Executive Vice President Florence Verzelen of Dassault Systèmes to discuss ways to globalize Korean biotech startups, including the establishment of a Biotech Innovation Center.

Sejong, November 21 – On November 10, Minister Lee Young of SMEs and Startups (MSS) met with Florence Verzelen, Executive Vice President of Dassault Systèmes' industry, marketing, and sustainability department, during her visit to Seoul for the global startup event COMEUP 2023.

Minister LEE Young has already met with Dassault Systèmes three times. He visited Dassault Systèmes' Boston campus in May and then met with CEO Bernard Charlès in June at Viva Technology 2023, a global start-up exhibition held in Paris.

During the recent meeting, both sides discussed the progress of Dassault Systèmes' first "Biotech Innovation Center" in Korea, along with specific plans for cooperation between the MSS and Dassault Systèmes. The establishment of the center was a shared goal of the Minister and CEO, Bernard Charlès.

The Biotech Innovation Center will offer a dedicated cloud platform for local biotech startups to collaborate and access Dassault Systèmes researchers worldwide.

Minister Lee and Executive VP Florence Verzelen discussed creating a global incubator infrastructure and innovation zone for advanced biotech.

Minister LEE Young stated, "The collaboration with Dassault Systèmes will be an important growth opportunity for local biotech startups." She added, "I would like to request that Executive VP Florence Verzelen pay attention to the Biotech Innovation Center so that the open innovation between Korean biotech startups and Dassault Systèmes can produce tangible results."