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Caladan Bio announces \$5M in financing to build next-generation benchtop bioreactors

Today, we are excited to announce the launch of our first product, The Caladan 250, and our \$5M seed round of funding led by Twelve Below. The Caladan 250 is a high throughput benchtop bioreactor system designed to increase experimentation throughput and enhance data capture - all while leveraging AI and ML.

Caladan Bio was founded in 2023 by [Mike Kobida](#) and [Rob Jauquet](#). As experts in building automation tools across hardware and software, Mike and Rob recognized the challenges faced by synthetic biology companies while scaling up new products with outdated and costly methods. Caladan Bio is on a mission to help these companies bring products to market faster and at a fraction of the cost.

“As the tools to edit cells become commonplace, the focus needs to shift to optimizing scale-up of bio-made products. At Caladan, we believe that for synthetic biology companies, the *process is the product*. The vast majority of synbio companies, especially outside of the pharmaceutical industry, are struggling to meet cost parity with incumbent products. Caladan is focused on arming these companies with the tools to increase experimentation throughput while enhancing data aggregation and analysis. The result is faster process optimization and a reduction in development timelines, all which equate to cost savings,” says Mike Kobida the Co-Founder and CEO of Caladan Bio.

The Caladan 250 features modular 250ml bioreactors designed to be used in sets of up to 24 on the benchtop. Caladan’s bioreactors feature an industry-leading suite of sensors at a price point that is half the cost of the industry standard. Their sensor-rich platform is specifically designed to produce standard structured datasets allowing customers to leverage modern AI and machine learning tools.

Caladan raised a \$5M seed round, led by Twelve Below with participation from Lerer Hippeau, Collaborative Fund, Wireframe Ventures, Ritual Capital and Factorial Capital.

Learn more about how to become a pilot partner at [Caladan.bio](https://caladan.bio)