

Press Release

Boehringer Ingelheim and Inno Biologics Enter Cooperation Agreement

Strategic business partnership will lead to creation of new opportunities and extended global market reach

Boston, 8 May 2007 – Inno Biologics is pleased to announce the execution of a cooperation agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim. An exchange of agreements took place at the BIO International Convention in Boston today, witnessed by the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, YB Dato' Sri Dr Jamaludin Jarjis. Under this agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim, Inno Biologics will have non-exclusive access to Boehringer Ingelheim's comprehensive manufacturing technology platform for cell culture products, including Boehringer Ingelheim's state-of-the art BI HEX cell expression system.

Boehringer Ingelheim, Germany, is one of the leading Contract Manufacturing Organisations (CMO) providing biopharmaceutical production services that focus on large-scale Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) biomanufacturing. Inno Biologics is a medium-sized Malaysian CMO offering similar services in small-scale GMP biomanufacturing that mainly focus on Phase I and Phase II clinical trial material productions. Located in Putra Nilai, Malaysia, Inno Biologics' 1,000-litre GMP facility was completed in July 2006. The facility, built to conform to US FDA (Food and Drug Administration) and EMEA (European Medical Agency) standards, was constructed on the basis of a modular concept by Pharmaplan International, Germany.

New frontiers ahead

The partnership will take advantage of the complementary strengths of both companies within the biomanufacturing area. Through this partnership, Inno Biologics will now offer its clients bioprocessing services using Boehringer Ingelheim's well-established systems for various stages of process development and biomanufacturing. In the event where a client's pipeline product advances to Phase III clinical and beyond, Boehringer Ingelheim will be positioned as the preferred partner for large-scale biomanufacturing for the client, if so desired.

YBhg Dato' Dr Mohd. Nazlee Kamal, the CEO of Inno Biologics, expressed his excitement at the new partnership, "We are very pleased indeed at this latest development of the company. It affords us greater opportunities and will definitely boost our credentials as an international CMO, allowing us to benefit from Boehringer Ingelheim's excellent track record and vast experience in the biomanufacturing industry."

"I believe this will be a great opportunity for our clients as it will allow us to provide a complete range of services - from clinical scale production at Inno Biologics to large-scale commercial production at Boehringer Ingelheim. It will allow for the seamless technology transfer between the two stages of

production, which will certainly increase cost effectiveness and will expedite the product's time to market," he added.

"With this partnership, Boehringer Ingelheim is able to expand its global market reach in the Asian region whilst complementing the existing worldwide strategic biomanufacturing network," commented Prof. Rolf G. Werner, Corporate Senior Vice President, Biopharmaceuticals, Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH.

"In view of the rapid growth of the biotech industry in this region, Asia will further emerge as an important market segment. Therefore, the cooperation with Inno Biologics is a good strategic fit," he elaborated. "We believe that Inno Biologics will serve as a strong partner as it has the capability in terms of technical expertise and complementary technology platforms. In addition, the capacity of its facility is exactly what Boehringer Ingelheim has been seeking in Asia."

"This partnership is a further international collaboration undertaken by Inno Biologics to enhance its positioning in the world CMO industry. Its previous agreement also includes a technology licensing agreement with CIMAB (Cuba) for the humanization of antibodies. This collaboration enhances the existing range of services provided to Inno Biologics' clients and, in consequence, to Boehringer Ingelheim."

YB Dato' Sri Dr Jamaludin Jarjis is delighted with the development of Inno Biologics, which reflects the growing knowledge-based biotech industry in Malaysia. "As one of the biotech companies that have been awarded the BioNexus Status which allows it to enjoy a 10-year period of tax exemption, Inno Biologics will continue to serve as a role model, and has brought encouragement to the domestic biotech community. I hope the cooperation will further add momentum to the current growth of the industry and stimulate more of such international alliances in the near future for mutual development."

About Inno Biologics

Inno Biologics Sdn. Bhd. is the key company of Inno Bio Ventures Sdn. Bhd., a Malaysian Ministry of Finance Incorporated Company with a close affiliation with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Malaysia.

Inno Biologics' services encompass gene cloning and expression using the mammalian cell expression system, bioprocess development and cGMP biopharmaceutical manufacturing.

Inno Biologics provides biopharmaceutical manufacturing services to local and international pharmaceutical companies. Its world class cGMP facility is built to conform to US FDA, EMEA and PIC/S regulations.

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About Boehringer Ingelheim

The Boehringer Ingelheim group is one of the world's 20 leading pharmaceutical companies. Headquartered in Ingelheim, Germany, it operates globally with 137 affiliates and almost 38,400 employees. Since it was founded in 1885, the family-owned company has been committed to researching, developing, manufacturing and marketing innovative products of high therapeutic value for human and veterinary medicine. In addition to captive use manufacturing, Boehringer Ingelheim is operating a contract development and industrial customer manufacturing business for Biopharmaceuticals.

Boehringer Ingelheim has developed highly efficient mammalian expression systems for CHO cells which presently allow productivities of more than 4 g/L in animal component free media. This Boehringer Ingelheim High Expression System (BI HEX) allows the development and production of high-quality products in a time-to-market approach and on a cost-saving basis. For the mammalian cell culture products a total capacity of 180,000 L is available, with a scale-up capacity which ranges from 80 to 15,000 L per fermentation train and downstream processing which is matched to the scale of the production capacity.

These comprehensive manufacturing technology platforms include proprietary media and downstream technology platforms for the production of therapeutic biopharmaceutical products like recombinant proteins, fusion proteins, protein scaffolds and monoclonal antibodies. Furthermore, franchise technologies in liquid and slow-release formulation and inhalation devices complement Boehringer Ingelheim's platform technologies.

For more information see:

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