

AnalytiCon Discovery to provide Schering-Plough Research Institute with MEGAbolite[®] Processing

Potsdam, Germany – AnalytiCon Discovery GmbH today announced that it will use its MEGAbolite[®] process to isolate, purify and characterize novel natural products from microbial extracts for Schering-Plough Research Institute.

As of June 1, 2000, the newly founded AnalytiCon Discovery took over the natural product-based agent research business sector from AnalytiCon AG. The new company represents the central and largest spin-off from AnalytiCon AG. The company is headed by Dr. Lutz Müller-Kuhrt, a founder of AnalytiCon AG; Dr. Jasmin Jakupovic, CSO; Dr. Kai Bindseil, COO; and Jochen Gatter, CFO.

This new relationship is an important development for AnalytiCon Discovery GmbH with its new investors, the Berlin Seed Capital Fund (BSCF) and the Kapitalbeteiligungsgesellschaft for the federal state of Brandenburg (KBB). Martin Dolling, Manager of the BSCF, said: "This arrangement with Schering-Plough Research Institute emphasizes AnalytiCon Discovery's strong position in innovative natural product-based drug discovery. AnalytiCon Discovery is in position to go public very soon and we intend to resolutely follow this path."

Forty percent of approved pharmaceuticals world-wide are derived from plant or microbial natural products. However, the cost of discovering such natural products is ever increasing and requires new approaches. The MEGAbolite[®] production process enables an output of isolated and structurally characterized natural products, which from the outset ensures AnalytiCon Discovery a leading world-wide role in this field. The addition of Schering-Plough Research Institute complements the list of renowned clients of AnalytiCon Discovery. To this, Dr. Lutz Müller-Kuhrt notes: "No other company specializing in natural product research has signed as many significant industrial projects."

AnalytiCon Discovery will continue to increase the value derived from its in-house expertise through collaborations with large pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. In the future, AnalytiCon Discovery will develop its

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position as a qualified provider and collaboration partner to the pharmaceutical industry with novel chiral libraries of semisynthetic natural product analogues ("NatDiverse" technology).

Further Informations:

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