

Biotec Pharmacon's subsidiary, ArcticZymes, granted €254.000 funding from Eurostars for a synthetic biology project

Tromsø, Norway, 2. April 2019 – Biotec Pharmacon (OSE: Biotec) announced today that its subsidiary, ArcticZymes, has been granted €254k as part of a collaborative project on the development of novel enzymes for synthetic biology.

The project proposal was developed in collaboration with the University of Tromsø and Danish company, Legomics, has been positively evaluated by the Eurostars programme. ArcticZymes is to participate in developing novel DNA ligases, enabling novel chemistry for synthetizing DNA and genes to be further developed by Legomics.

Working alongside the University of Tromsø, ArcticZymes have used Arctic marine bioprospecting and engineering to establish a substantial base for the development of enzymes with novel unique properties.

ArcticZymes Managing Director Jethro Holter said:

“This project supports ArcticZymes ambitions towards building a broader synergistic product portfolio, with wide applicability across all three molecular biology market segments it serves – research, IVD and therapeutics. We are also excited to partner with Legomics and the University of Tromsø in enabling a novel gene synthesis technology.”

Christian Jørgensen, CEO, added:

“The project will further strengthen our long-term collaboration with the University of Tromsø in the discovery of other classes of unique enzymes. Furthermore, we are looking forward to establishing a closer relationship with Legomics and developing enzyme technology for use in gene synthesis technology and various other applications.”

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About Biotec Pharmacon ASA

Biotec Pharmacon is a Norwegian life sciences company focused on specialized, novel enzyme and immunomodulating beta-glucan technology.

The Biotec Pharmacon Group is creating value from innovation in life science markets via its subsidiaries, ArcticZymes and Biotec BetaGlucans. Its technologies capitalize on more than three decades of world-class research at the Arctic University of Tromsø to offer niche and high-tech products in several biotech segments.

ArcticZymes develops, manufactures and commercialises novel recombinant enzymes for use in molecular research, In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD) and therapeutics.

Biotec BetaGlucans develops, produces and markets immunomodulating beta-glucans addressing high unmet healthcare needs, such as chronic wound healing and as an adjuvant in vaccines against certain types of cancer relapse.

Listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange since 2005 under the [Biotec] ticker, Biotec Pharmacon is headquartered in Tromsø, Norway, in the SIVA Innovation Centre.

Biotec Pharmacon's unique IP and capabilities are protected via a large portfolio of patents around both enzyme and beta-glucan products.

For more information, please visit the website: www.biotec.no.

About ArcticZymes

ArcticZymes develops, produces and markets novel recombinant enzymes for use in molecular research, In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD) and therapeutics.

The Company focuses on novel and high-quality enzyme technologies in growth markets where rapid technological developments are creating a strong demand for new and improved enzymes. Some of its enzymes' unique features include heat lability and activity in challenging environments as well as customised, engineered novel features which can be integrated to power the technologies of commercial partners.

All ArcticZymes products are ISO certified.

For more information, please visit: www.articzymes.com

About University of Tromsø

UiT The Arctic University of Norway is the world's northernmost University which is reflected in the strong innovation focus of its research activities, often drawing on this unique geographical location. The department of Chemistry has a strong profile in cold-active enzyme discovery and engineering for biotechnological purposes. This is facilitated by superb access to sampling locations in Arctic regions, in-house competence regarding biomining of (meta)genomic data and cutting-edge structural biology infrastructure through the national NorCryst platform. The translation of fundamental scientific findings to commercial solutions is enabled by collaboration with industrial partners and participation in innovation-focused projects at national and international levels.

About Legomics

Legomics is a Danish company and spin-off of Genomic Expression. Legomics technology

enables the development of a desktop gene writer using enzymes.

Other chemistries for DNA synthesis are based on harsh organic chemicals and bulky pipetting robots for the assembly of all the fragments. It is a tedious and time-consuming process because smaller custom-made pieces of DNA have to be assembled by hand or with a pipetting robot giving a lead time of 2-4 weeks to get a new piece of DNA comprising one or more genes. By an enzymatic driven process, Legomics aims to develop the technology for a desktop gene writer that would increase speed and lower the cost of DNA- and gene synthesis, democratizing the process and fueling new innovations.

About Eurostars

Eurostars supports international innovative projects led by research and development- performing small- and medium-sized enterprises (R&D-performing SMEs). With its bottom-up approach, Eurostars supports the development of rapidly marketable innovative products, processes and services that help improve the daily lives of people around the world. Eurostars has been carefully developed to meet the specific needs of SMEs. It is an ideal first step in international cooperation, enabling small businesses to combine and share expertise and benefit from working beyond national borders.

Eurostars is a joint programme between EUREKA and the European Commission, co-funded from the national budgets of 36 Eurostars Participating States and Partner Countries and by the European Union through Horizon 2020. In the 2014-2020 period it has a total public budget of €1.14 billion.

For more information, please visit www.eurostars-eureka.eu