

Heather Hobbs

NEWS & VIEWS

Bringing you all the latest Business and Financial News and Views from the Science Industry

Phenomenex Honoured by Red Cross



Phenomenex, Inc a leading manufacturer of separation science consumables, was honoured recently at the American Red Cross' annual Awards Ceremony in Los Angeles, where the company received a Platinum Special Recognition Award for its work with the Southern California Chapter of the American Red Cross.

The Award recognises organisations for their long-standing support of the Red Cross and year-over-year excellence in blood donation levels. In 2007, Phenomenex increased the number of employee donations by 91%. In addition to the semi-annual

drives, last year Phenomenex hosted two emergency blood drives during periods of low blood supply, at the request of the President of the Southern California Chapter of the American Red Cross.

"I most certainly am very proud. This is what sets Phenomenex apart as a responsible company," said President and CEO Fasha Mahjoor. Phenomenex supports the Red Cross and other charitable and community organisations in support of its mission, which is characterised by a commitment to the prosperity of those it serves: customers, employees and humanity."

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Varian Acquires Precision Detectors

Varian, Inc recently acquired the assets and products of Precision Detectors, (Bellingham, Massachusetts), which specialises in the manufacture of chromatography detectors and software for use with GPC and SEC systems.

Polymer Laboratories, now a part of Varian, Inc, has used light scattering detectors from Precision Detectors for many years in its GPC instruments and this acquisition consolidates these long

standing links, while bringing new technologies in the fields of protein analysis and characterisation to drive new product development.

"Precision Detectors has an excellent pedigree in innovative light scattering detection", says Trevor Havard, President of Precision Detectors. "Being part of the Varian family will allow us to build on this heritage and expand the range of products and services we can offer to our customers."

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Felix Negrón to Lead Pall Corporation's Life Sciences Operations

Pall Corporation, a leader in filtration, separation, and purification technologies has appointed Senior Vice President Felix M. Negrón to lead global manufacturing and supply chain business for the company's Life Sciences sector. With 20 years experience in pharmaceutical operations and quality assurance Mr Negrón was recognised as the Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association's 2007 Industrial Leader of the Year. He joined the company in 2003 as General Manager for Pall Life Science's operations in Puerto Rico, where he initiated a successful Process Excellence program for continuous improvement.

"Felix's influence on our Puerto Rico operations was so profound that we're now implementing his approach across our global life sciences manufacturing facilities," said Roberto Perez, President of Pall Life Sciences.

"By 2010, his Process Excellence approach will be applied to Pall's sales, R&D, and human resources functions as well. Felix's operations expertise and ability to drive operational excellence throughout the entire life sciences organisation will allow Pall meet its aggressive growth goals - and meet our customers current and future needs."

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ClinPhone Opens Paris Office



ClinPhone, has announced the establishment of its new Paris office following an opening ceremony at Le Train Bleu, Place Louis Armand, Paris. Damien Tremolet, Director of Operations will lead the new office, which is centrally located in the business centre of the Gare de Lyon station in Paris, France. He will be supported by Jacques Rudelle, an Associate Director of Business Development at the company.

"Customer service is a vital part of any successful business and ClinPhone prides itself on providing the best possible support to all of its clients regardless of location," comments Steve Kent, CEO, ClinPhone. "The opening of this new office is testament to our continued unwavering commitment and we are very excited about our expansion."

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VC Fund Set to Benefit Life Sciences Sector

Fountain Healthcare Partners ("Fountain") recently announced the first close of its inaugural fund, Fountain Healthcare Partners I, with €75 (\$117) million of committed capital, reported to be the largest dedicated life science venture capital ("VC") firm based in Ireland. It is also one of the largest emerging manager VC funds raised in the life science sector globally in the past 2 years.

Fountain will invest the majority of its capital in Europe and will have a strong emphasis on the life science sector in Ireland. The first close significantly exceeded initial expectations and Fountain is now targeting approximately €100 million in commitments at its final close.

Over 90% of the capital invested in the fund was sourced from institutional investors of which 75% are Irish based. Institutional investors

include the European Investment Fund, the National Pension Reserve Fund and Enterprise Ireland. A select number of high net worth individual investors also participated. "We have been very pleased with the level and quality of investor participation in the first close. There was clear support for our investment strategy, and we significantly exceeded our original first close target," said Dr Manus Rogan, a founding partner for the initiative.

Fountain is a bi-located fund with a main office in Dublin and a second office in New York. "The purpose of our New York office is to maintain on-the-ground connectivity with the US life-science sector. Specifically this office will provide our firm and our investee companies access to people, intellectual property, partnering and exit

opportunities, syndication capital and deal flow," said Aidan King, Fountain's New York based partner.

Fountain is a product-focused VC fund and will invest in companies with product development programmes that have a defined pathway to commercialisation, value enhancement and exit. The principals will take an active role with investees and will bring considerable industry expertise and a deep network of contacts in the US, Europe and Asia to investee companies.

The Fund will invest €0.5 to €7.0 million per company and will have an emphasis on the following sub-sectors: specialty pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical devices and diagnostics. Fountain will invest this capital over multiple funding rounds alongside international and domestic life science focused VC firms.

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NextGen Sciences Strengthens Protein Biomarker Team

NextGen Group Plc has announced the expansion of its protein biomarker team with the appointment of Dr. Ruth VanBogelen as Director of Biomarkers and Proteomics and Dr. M. Walid Qoronfleh as Vice President of Business Development. These appointments are part of the Group's strategy to focus resources on growing the biomarker service business to meet the needs of its customers.

Dr. VanBogelen joins from Pfizer, Inc, where she was Director of Proteomics for Research and Development. She has thirty years of experience using proteomics technologies to generate and test hypotheses for pre-clinical and clinical programs in both industry and academia.

Prior to Pfizer (and Warner-Lambert) she led research into microbial proteomics at the University of Michigan Medical Center.

Dr. Walid Qoronfleh joins NextGen Sciences from the successful Q3 Consulting Group where he was

a Founder and Managing Director. With over 20 years of commercial experience, Walid has held various senior management and executive positions including those at AntexPharma, Pierce Biotechnology (now part of ThermoFisher) and CTA Corp/University of Michigan-Ann Arbor amongst other scientific and technology appointments.

Walid received an MBA from Penn State University as well as a Marketing certificate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Commenting on the appointments, Dr. Mike Pisano, CEO of NextGen Sciences, said: "I am delighted to welcome Ruth and Walid to the team. Ruth's leadership, knowledge and vision will help us focus our biomarker and proteomics services towards the evolving needs of the pharmaceutical industry.

Walid's extensive commercial experience in the pharmaceutical sector will support the continued growth of our Biomarker Service business."



Dr. M. Walid Qoronfleh (right), Vice President of Business Development and Dr. Ruth VanBogelen (below), Director of Biomarkers and Proteomics



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Owen Mumford Celebrates Queen's Awards



Owen Mumford Ltd is a double winner of the prestigious Queen's Awards 2008, receiving recognition in both the International Trade and the Innovation categories. The company's international trade record reflects an increase in export earnings of 156% over the last six years with over 80% of total production said to be

exported. It is the second time the company has received acclaim for its overseas business having previously been presented with the Queen's Award for export Achievement in 1999.

The Queen's Award for Innovation is specifically for Owen Mumford's safety lancet Unistik® 3, a single use capillary blood sampling device with Comfort Zone Technology® making blood sampling for patients virtually pain-free.

Export Manager, Martin Kendall said: "The Queen's Award 2008 for International Trade is a prestigious endorsement of Owen Mumford's contribution towards British industry's export business and we are very proud to have been selected. During the 50+ years we have been trading, Owen Mumford Ltd has earned a global reputation for designing,

developing, manufacturing and exporting medical products. We will continue to be a world leader in medical technology to help improve the quality of patients' lives everywhere."

Kevin King, Product Manager for Unistik® 3 said: "Although people with diabetes are encouraged to take regular blood samples, they are often reluctant to do so because some devices are painful to use – especially for young children.

Unistik®3 makes the process simple, hygienic and most importantly, virtually pain-free which was our overriding objective in designing it. Since Unistik®3 was introduced in 2006, we have seen a huge increase in demand and feel confident it will encourage patient compliance in monitoring blood sugar levels."

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Bruker Subsidiary Receives Customer Leadership Award

The 2008 Frost & Sullivan Customer Value Leadership Award in the medical superconductor market has been presented to Bruker subsidiary European Advanced Superconductors (EAS) GmbH & Co. KG, which is now part of the Advanced Supercon business of Bruker. Burkhard Prause, Ph.D., Managing Director of EAS, commented: "This is indeed an honor that our dedicated workforce at EAS has earned. We would like to congratulate them on this important customer achievement, and wish them continued success as we expand our Advanced Supercon business globally."

Located in Hanau, Germany, EAS is a strong player within the medical and especially the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) market, having developed and manufactured low-temperature superconductors (LTS) for over 40 years. The company's product portfolio encompasses LTS wire for clinical MRI and analytical instruments as well as for large-scale physics research projects, such as particle accelerators and experimental fusion reactors. It

has participated in projects including the Large Hadron Collider project, and expects to be a key participant on the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) program.

Frost & Sullivan Chairman David Frigstad explained the basis for the award to EAS: "Existing market participants are competing for a limited pool within this concentrated market. In such market circumstances, the surest way of maintaining sustained market share is through innovative customer enhancement service strategies. EAS has achieved its success through the deployment of customer service strategies, as well as excellence in technology." At the end of April, Bruker Corporation announced that its Advanced Supercon business, which includes EAS, European High Temperature Superconductors (EHTS), and Hydrostatic Extrusions Ltd., had established business development and customer support operations in the U.S., Tom Rosa has been appointed as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President of this new US subsidiary.

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AAI Strengthens Fibre Optics Production

Process analyser manufacturer, Applied Analytics (AAI) has opened a new fibre optics facility with capability to measure each fibre for light transmittance at specific application ranges and tested for stability over time (performance is traced and documented prior to shipment). The incorporation of high-end, in-house fibre

optics production enables the company to fulfil customer specifications on fibre length, core type, and wavelength transmittance response and to ship fibres on demand, while controlling the quality and traceability of the products, according to Philip Lagace, AAI's manufacturing manager.

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Merger Strengthens Market Sector Presence

Schmidlin-DBS AG has merged with the Division Instrumentation of LN Industries SA (LNI SA) to form a new company, LNI-SCHMIDLIN AG which will be part of LN Industries SA.

The two companies have a long lasting business relationship and bring together a wealth of products and services dedicated to gas related applications.

Whilst Schmidlin-DBS AG is well known for its broad range of laboratory gas generators like for hydrogen, nitrogen and zero-air, LNI SA is strong in the field of industrial gas generators, as well as gas calibration, air pollution monitoring, medical-and high precision gas-mixing devices. Both companies experienced substantial growth over the past and are well positioned in all important and further growing markets such as pharmaceuticals, food, chemical analysis, petrochemicals, automotive, academic, medical and environmental.

This merger will the company's market presence while strengthening its sales and R&D departments as well as the production capacities. All contacts and address details remain the same.

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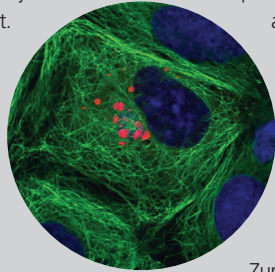
MICROSCOPY NEWS

Microbes Meet Microscopy at MICROSCIENCE 2008 First Formal Venture Between RMS and SGM Lets Battle Commence!

MICROSCIENCE 2008 will see a first-time formal collaboration between the Royal Microscopical Society (RMS) and the Society for General Microbiology (SGM) with the introduction of a new satellite meeting at this major biennial microscopy-focused event.

The one-day SGM meeting will concentrate on the cellular aspects of infection. It will consider both cell invasion processes and the 'tussle' that takes place when a host cell tries to fight back against a pathogen that has started to replicate inside.

"The synergy is an obvious one - there are not many microbes that can be seen with the naked eye - but up until now there have been no formal joint ventures," explains Dr Paul Monaghan, RMS Secretary Science (Life Science) and Head of



Bioimaging, Institute of Animal Health, Pirbright. "The meeting promises to be extremely interesting as we seek to gain further understanding of the cellular battle with cutting-edge viewpoints presented, such as the role that autophagy may play in this process."

Professor Timo Hyypia (University of Turku) will speak on 'Cellular interactions of enteroviruses' and Dr Mark Jepson (University of Bristol) will look at the way in which bacteria invade cells, with Professor Urs Greber (University of Zurich) then describing interactions of viruses with the cell cytoskeleton. The manipulation of cellular compartments by the SARS coronavirus for replication purposes will also be discussed by Dr Marjolein Kikkert (Leiden University Medical Centre).

Dr Michelle S Swanson (University of Michigan) will introduce the role of autophagy in bacterial and viral infection.

Alongside these internationally acclaimed invited speakers, a number of submitted papers will also be presented on this fascinating area of research.

The meeting will be held on 24th June at the ExCeL conference centre in London. Delegates at the SGM-RMS meeting will also have access to the exhibition where over 100 exhibitors will cover almost all aspects of light and electron microscopy. If it is new and exciting in microscopy, it will be there.

Full details of the MICROSCIENCE 2008 Exhibition and Conference (23-26 June, ExCeL, London), as well as the one day SGM satellite meeting, can be found at www.microscience2008.org.uk.

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Leica Microsystems Acquires Coretech Holdings/McCormick Scientific Instruments

Leica Microsystems has acquired the assets of St. Louis, Missouri-based Coretech Holdings and McCormick Scientific, LLC (Coretech), expanding its position in histopathology.

Coretech provides a range of systems, instruments, reagents and consumables for the clinical and research histology laboratory with brand names including: McCormick Scientific, The Vibratome® Company, Paraplast® embedding media, TurboFlow II® histology cassettes and myNeuroLab.com.

Coretech becomes a business unit within the Biosystems Division, and will be renamed Leica Biosystems St. Louis, LLC. Doug Martin, formerly CEO of Coretech Holdings, LLC and now Vice President & General Manager of Leica Biosystems St. Louis, LLC, said: "The synergies created by combining the Coretech products and team with those of Leica Microsystems are considerable.

"Both companies will quickly leverage an improved product offering for our customers and expand our ability to service the needs of our customers."

"With this acquisition, Leica Microsystems continues to broaden and strengthen the product line we offer our customers. The benefit to customers is that they now have a single partner to come to for all their histology equipment, reagent and consumable needs. Having internal research and development, as well as manufacturing capabilities for the instrument and their associated reagents and consumables allows us to better optimise the entire system, leading to higher quality and more consistent results for our customers," says Anne De Greef-Safft, President of Leica Microsystems' Biosystems Division.

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WITec Breaks Ground for New Purpose-Built Headquarters

Microscope manufacturer WITec has begun construction of a new headquarters building in Ulm, Germany, which will comprise of research, production and office facilities.

The mayor of Ulm attended a recent ground-breaking ceremony for the development, which at 1800 square meters on four floors will more than double the current available space. As an established global player in high-tech instrumentation, WITec benefits from the exponential growth of the

Nanotechnology, Materials Research and Life Sciences markets; the new building was deemed a necessity to both meet increasing demand for microscopy solutions and to secure future growth potential. The new laboratories will focus on R&D with demonstration and training labs also to be established.

"The new building is another milestone in our ongoing success story and it also anticipates future growth opportunities" says Dr. Joachim Koenen,

Managing Director of WITec. "With the new facilities we expect another increase in productivity and efficiency, as the concept of the building is ideally customised to meet WITec's high-level needs for developing and producing state of the art microscopy systems."

The new headquarters is situated in the city's Science Park, next to the University of Ulm.

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