

The European ScreeningPort is a double winner Euro BioPharma competition, which offers 100 million Euro on funding to promote innovative concepts for the development of new medicines.

The European ScreeningPort (Hamburg) is part of the Northern Germany consortium "NEU²" and is also the exclusive partner screening for the "Drug Discovery and Development Center of Max Planck Innovation" consortium. These consortia were winners in the BioPharma competition, aimed at funding the discovery of new medicines from research to the clinic. The international jury chose three winners from 37 candidates, with a total of 100 million EUR of funding to be shared by the successful consortia.

Hamburg, October 1st, 2008. Within the Northern Germany consortium NEU², the European ScreeningPort will be responsible for the translation of innovative scientific research results from the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), these findings will then be further developed by the pharmaceutical and biotech members of the consortium. Overall, NEU² has set itself the goal of developing novel therapeutic and diagnostic approaches for the treatment of patients with multiple sclerosis, with a portfolio of potential therapies going from basic research to the market. Funding for this consortium will be up to 34.5 million EUR.

The European ScreeningPort has been selected by the Max-Planck-Innovation led consortium "Drug Discovery and Development Center - DDC" to be their partner for small molecule screening activities. The DDC is pursuing a totally new approach in the area of the technology transfer which aims to generate highly attractive and commercially important new therapeutic agents.

Prof. Dr. Carsten Claussen, (CEO): "We are very pleased to be involved with 2 of the winning consortia. It shows that our business model for translating innovation within academia into starting points for new medicines fills an existing gap. With our partners, infrastructure and especially our team of dedicated scientist and engineers, we intend to make an innovative contribution to discovering the medicines of the future."

Dr Philip Gribbon, (CSO): "By bringing together basic research from academia and public-private organisations and combining these with the market focus and insight of the pharmaceutical industry, we are creating a new model for Drug Discovery in the 21st Century."

European ScreeningPort GmbH is a Public-Private Partnership located in Hamburg, which has set itself the task of providing modern drug research capabilities for the academic community. The European ScreeningPort provides access to automated molecular screening platforms, bioinformatics know-how, chemical and biological infrastructure and an international staff with substantial pharmaceutical industry experience. Ongoing projects are being negotiated with various institutes within Germany including the Helmholtz Research Society, the Fraunhofer Institute and Max Planck organisations, as well as with University Hospitals in Hamburg and Kiel. Internationally, the ScreeningPort is working with the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, and the Karolinska Institute in Sweden.

Contact:

Markus Wolf
European ScreeningPort GmbH
Schnackenburgallee 114
D-22525 Hamburg
phone: +49 40 56081 477
fax: +49 40 56081 453
e-mail: markus.wolf@screeningport.com
web: www.screeningport.com