

caprotec bioanalytics obtains € 4.5M (ca. \$6.5M) Start-up financing

Berlin, Germany, November 22, 2007 – caprotec bioanalytics GmbH has obtained capital investments from the VC Fonds Berlin GmbH, which is managed by the IBB (Investitionsbank Berlin) Beteiligungsgesellschaft, the ERP Startfonds and well-known private investors for further developing and marketing of their innovative and proprietary CCMS platform technology for the pharma- and proteome analytics market. The private investors include Prof. Dr. Heinrich-Maria Schulte, Co-founder of Evotec AG and owner of the Wölbern Bank in Hamburg, Germany.

The CCMS technology was developed by Prof. Dr. Hubert Köster founder of caprotec bioanalytics GmbH. Prof. Köster has founded three other biotechnology companies around his inventions. In 1981 he started Biosyntech GmbH in Hamburg, the first biotechnology company in Germany. In 1987 he co-founded the US company Milligen/Biosearch in Bedford, MA. In 1994 he started Sequenom, San Diego/Hamburg his third biotechnology company. At Sequenom he was initially CSO and in 1997 he was promoted to be its President and CEO leading the company to the third best biotech IPO at NASDAQ (SQNM).

“We see in the assembly of our syndicate of this financing round a confirmation not only of the solidity of our technology and business model, but also as a great chance to use the network for business development and future collaborations. The now available funds will be used to intensify the development and applications of the CCMS technology in the important areas of proteome research and the improvement of drug development“, Prof. Dr. Köster, CEO of caprotec bioanalytics GmbH was quoted as saying.

“We see a great potential for marketing the CCMS technology in the proteome analytics market and especially in improving the drug development process and we are pleased that we could support Prof. Dr. Köster in setting-up caprotec bioanalytics GmbH in Berlin”, commented Ute Mercker, Senior Investment Manager and department head of the Life Science Team at the Investitionsbank Berlin Beteiligungsgesellschaft.

In the centre of the CCMS technology are small, tri-functional molecules called capture compounds (CCs). They enable a targeted isolation of proteins or protein classes directly from the complex biological sample. After isolation the captured proteins are identified and characterized by mass spectrometry. CCMS technology is complementary to 2D gel electrophoresis and affinity chromatography. The CCs function as chemical probes detecting proteins directly in solution and thereby closing a technological gap. CCMS offers a general solution to investigate the interactions of small molecules (selectivity function) with the proteome.

Because of the simple interchangeability of the selectivity function a wide range of applications is achievable: The selectivity function guides the CC to the protein in question. caprotec bioanalytics is developing a family of kits for the specific isolation of proteins from any biological sample. Alternatively the CCs can be used for optimization and selection of drug candidates to determine target or off-target proteins and the mechanism of drug action. For details see H. Köster et al., Capture Compound Mass Spectrometry: A Technology for the Investigation of Small Molecule Protein Interactions, in ASSAY & Drug Development Technologies, Vol. 5, p. 381-390 (2007).

After closing of the financing round the company is now initiating the operational phase by moving into its new facilities in Berlin-Adlershof and establishing the team. Additionally marketing of the Methylome-Kit for isolation of DNA/RNA/Protein methyl transferases currently in beta-testing will be initiated followed by the rapid development of a family of kits for the isolation of different protein classes. After the successful completion of a collaboration with a big player in the pharmaceutical industry we plan to enter into more collaborations with pharma and biotech firms to apply the CCMS technology for improving the drug development process.

About caprotec bioanalytics GmbH

caprotec bioanalytics GmbH is a Berlin-based biotech company focusing on the commercialization of its proprietary Capture Compound Mass Spectrometry™ (CCMS) technology. The core of the CCMS technology consists of small, tri-functional molecules called capture compounds (CCs). They enable a targeted isolation of proteins directly from complex biological samples. After isolation the captured proteins are identified and characterized by mass spectrometry. Providing a state-of-the-art platform for the isolation and analysis of proteins from complex mixtures, the CCMS technology has enormous potential in proteomics, drug development and the development of biomarkers. The technology is protected by a broad patent portfolio. caprotec bioanalytics was founded in 2006 by Prof. Dr. Hubert Köster, an acknowledged innovator and entrepreneur in the field of biotech. His track records include the foundation of Biosyntech, the first biotech company in Germany, the co-foundation of Milligen/Biosearch and the foundation of Sequenom Inc. As CEO and President of Sequenom he was responsible for one of the most successful US biotech IPOs at the NASDAQ. After closing a financing round of EUR 6 million, caprotec bioanalytics started operations in January 2008 in Berlin-Adlershof. The Company is supported by an international scientific advisory board including one Nobel Laureate.

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About IBB Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH

The IBB Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH has been managing the VC Fonds Berlin since November 2004 and the newly founded VC Fonds Technologie Berlin as well as the VC Fonds Kreativwirtschaft Berlin since December 2007. The funds are financed by resources from the Investitionsbank Berlin (IBB) and from the Europäischer Fonds für regionale Entwicklung (EFRE), administrated by the Federal State of Berlin. Since 1997 the IBB Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH, in consortia with partners has placed over EUR 470 million at the disposal of Berlin technology companies, whereof EUR 66 million were invested by the IBB Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH as a lead, co-lead or co-investor.

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This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve inherent risks and uncertainties. We have identified certain important factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in such forward-looking statements.