

PRESS RELEASE

BRAIN and Clariant entered a strategic cooperation in the segment of textile refining

Zwingenberg (D) und Muttenz (CH) 13.05.2008 – The white biotechnology company BRAIN AG located in Zwingenberg, Germany and the leading speciality chemicals company Clariant International AG entered a strategic cooperation for development and production of innovative textile enzymes. Within the cooperation BRAIN will identify enzymes and biocatalysts which will give new biological properties in the textile processing and furthermore to implement optimised procedural steps in the textile production. Textile business at Clariant focuses on the development and marketing of the innovative products.

The strategic collaboration is a prime example of adding value at both levels – technology and process. Using the combined know-how, market knowledge, as well as chemical and biotechnological experience enables both companies to improve the identification and development of innovative enzymes for the textile improvement. These achievements will help the long-time customers of Clariant to hold or to achieve competitive advantages within their key markets.

Although the research program started very recently, the synergistic effects are already obvious. Several highly promising enzymes with the dual

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potential to introduce new biological properties to the textile processing as well as optimise the process steps during their production are already identified.

“BRAIN and Clariant will use their joint expertise in biotechnology and chemistry with the goal to realise innovations for numerous industrial applications in the biological textile processing”, states Dr. Harald Sigmund, head of the R&D Enzymes Team within the TechCenter of Clariant, Reinach. “Through this cooperation with BRAIN, Clariant further intensified one of its central strategic goals, namely the focus on modern, value adding products.”

“Together with our strategic cooperation partner Clariant we want to develop new enzymes and based on our BioArchives create product innovations for the biological textile refining”, discusses Dr. Jürgen Eck, CTO of BRAIN AG. “We are glad to support Clariant expanding its excellent reputation in the development of innovative, biotechnological products and processes. Our successful strategic cooperation combines advantageously the long lasting white biotech experience of BRAIN with the exceptional expertise of Clariant within process- and product development as well as global sales and marketing.“

BRAIN – The White Biotech Company

BRAIN is a research and development company which discovers and develops novel bioactive natural compounds and proprietary enzymes for its partners and customers in the chemical and pharmaceutical as well as the food and cosmetics industries. In a unique approach to the discovery and production of new biological compounds and biocatalysts, the company harnesses creative solutions from nature's untapped biodiversity. Its success is built on its proprietary BioArchive comprising millions of genes, proteins and metabolic pathways from microbial isolates and metagenome libraries. BRAIN was founded in 1993, currently employs 65 highly qualified people and has developed into one of Europe's leading white (industrial) biotech companies.

www.brain-biotech.de

Clariant – Exactly your chemistry.

Clariant is a global leader in the field of specialty chemicals. Strong business relationships, commitment to outstanding service and wide-ranging application know-how make Clariant a preferred partner for its customers. Clariant, which is represented on five continents with more than 100 group companies, employs around 21,000 people. Headquartered in Muttenz near Basel, Switzerland, it generated sales of CHF 8.5 billion in 2007. Clariant's businesses are organized in four divisions: Textile, Leather & Paper Chemicals, Pigments & Additives, Masterbatches and Functional Chemicals. Clariant is committed to sustainable growth springing from its own innovative strength. Clariant's innovative products play a key role in its customers' manufacturing and treatment processes or else add value to their end products. The company's success is based on the know-how of its people and their ability to identify new customer needs at an early stage and to work together with customers to develop innovative, efficient solutions.

www.clariant.com

Pictures:

Photograph of the main building of BRAIN AG in Zwingenberg. The building was erected 1934 in Bauhaus-style and some years ago has achieved historic landmark status. Today it is part of the BRAIN technology-campus.

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Clariant and BRAIN's effort to develop innovative textile enzymes begins with screening BRAIN's large library of micro-organisms, the so-called BioArchive.

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