PRESS RELEASE

Successful Research in NatLifE 2020

Alliance partners share a positive outlook following the annual meeting

Zwingenberg, February 11, 2015 – On 28 and 29 January 2015, the regular annual meeting of the strategic alliance NatLifE 2020 was held on the premises of BRAIN AG. During these two days, over 50 scientists from Germany, Denmark, France and England exchanged views regarding their latest research results and produced a positive assessment. Since 01.02.2013, the 22 partner companies involved in NatLifE 2020 have shared the common goal of developing high-quality, natural specialty products for the food and cosmetic industries. The strategic alliance NatLifE 2020 was created 9 years ago and is worth a total of 30 million Euros, which was co-financed by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF).

The aim of NatLifE 2020, with the help of biotechnology and an understanding of biological systems, is to develop a new generation of natural, biologically active components for use in the enhancement of recipes in the food and cosmetics industries, which will in turn make a significant contribution to the improvement of human nutrition, health and well-being.

The first phase of the strategic alliance, which is due to last until 31.01.2016, is naturally at the beginning of the value chain. The focus is on research and basic experiments in order to expand the technology

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base of the partners and begin the search for biologically active substances. These are then investigated further along the value chain in the development and pilot phases, which are the next two sections of NatLifE 2020 research.

Following the completion of the 2nd year of joint research, work has been divided into 4 sub-programmes whose work is largely on schedule, meaning that some milestones may even be achieved ahead of time. BRAIN, the coordinator of NatLifE 2020, is particularly pleased with the scientific papers about the alliance which have already been published (7), the numerous conference papers (15) and the first patent applications (3), which prove the quality of achievements both on a scientific and economic level. The first positive tests of bioactive substances in human tasting and application experiments complement the successful work of the alliance partners.

"The results from the first two years have exceeded even our expectations. It is sensational that the first substances from joint research have achieved encouraging results in human application testing after such a short time,' says Dr. Michael Krohn, Unit Head BioActives & Performance Proteins at BRAIN AG. "There is an open exchange of information within the alliance, precompetitive development has already revealed several synergies, and the research activities of the partners accelerate each other. We look forward to more years of joint research with the industry partners, including Merck, AB Enzymes, AnalytiCon Discovery und BRAIN, who will continue to benefit from each other within this alliance."

"The majority of the research, conducted by, among others, the Academic Groups of the Universities of Münster, Greifswald, Göttingen, Halle, Potsdam, Hamburg, LMU München, Fulda, Würzburg, DTU and INRA, will be successfully completed in most cases after the first 3 years. For the pending second phase of NatLifE 2020, we will have to align ourselves more with the members of the alliance, since the focus of the work is moving towards substance and process development," adds Dr. Martin Langer, Unit Head Corporate Development at BRAIN AG. "We are already in con-

versation with companies from the food and cosmetics industries regarding the next development phase, and we are hoping to include more partners in the alliance to further develop the very promising bioactive molecules produced in the research phase of the value chain."

About BRAIN

BRAIN AG is one of Europe's technology leaders in the field of industrial 'white' biotechnology. Within strategic alliances, BRAIN AG has identified and developed numerous innovative products and solutions for companies in the chemical, pharmaceutical, cosmetic and food industries by harnessing nature's untapped biodiversity. These active product components are identified by BRAIN AG and contained in the company's "BioArchive", one of the most comprehensive archives of its kind. Since its foundation in 1993, BRAIN has entered into over 99 strategic cooperations with nearly every prominent company in the chemical industry. Cooperation partners include BASF, Bayer Schering, Clariant, DSM, Emschergenossenschaft, Evonik Degussa, Fuchs, Henkel, Nutrinova, RWE, Sandoz, Südzucker and Symrise. The company currently employs 116 highly skilled personnel.

For his groundbreaking activities in research towards a sustainable "biologization of the chemical industry" using "nature's toolbox for industrial processes", CEO of BRAIN AG Holger Zinke was awarded the 2008 German Environmental Award from the German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU).

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About NatLifE 2020

In the strategic alliance NatLifE 2020, partners from industry, SMEs and academic research institutions are united. The alliance was created 9 years ago and is worth 30 million Euros (carrying the grant number FKZ 031A206). The alliance was launched as a strategic alliance on 01.02.2013, following a research tender offer as part of the "Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Initiative" by BMBF. The coordinator of the alliance is BRAIN AG, based in Zwingenberg.

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Photos:

Group photo of participants at the 3rd annual meeting of the strategic alliance NatLifE 2020 at BRAIN AG, Zwingenberg.

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The text and images from this press release can also be found at www.brain-biotech.de.