

PRESS RELEASE

BRAIN AG Enlarges Management Board

Zwingenberg, 16 November 2015: Consistently driving the implementation of its industrialization strategy in the “BioIndustrial” division, BRAIN AG is growing its management team. On 1 November 2015, Mr Eric Marks (54) was named Chief Operating Officer (COO) of BRAIN AG. Chairmanship of the board (CEO) will be taken on by Dr Jürgen Eck, who has been with BRAIN and in its group of partners since 1994.

Eric Marks holds a university degree in business administration and has more than 25 years of experience in the industry, in particular with regard to the organisation and expansion of sales operations and the acquisition and support of key accounts with Gist-Brocades (NL) or Genencor (U.S.A.). Most recently, from 2006 to 2015, Mr Marks was employed at AB Enzymes based in Darmstadt, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Associated British Food plc. In his role as Global Sales Director and holding the position of “Vice President Global Sales and Business”, he was responsible for the global business organization of the company, which operates in the technical and food enzymes markets.

At BRAIN, Mr Marks will head BRAIN’s “BioIndustrial” business as COO and thus be responsible for the expansion of sales in the company’s subsidiaries and the marketing of BRAIN’s proprietary product pipeline. Even today, the “BioIndustrial” division accounts for more than half of the BRAIN group’s total operating performance.

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“Over the past few years and in line with its industrialization strategy, BRAIN AG has created a comprehensive product pipeline for the enzymes, food, wound care and BioSubstitutes (biological substituents for chemical ingredients) markets as well as in the field of cosmetics and care products. In Mr Marks, we now have been able to find a highly seasoned manager who has the sales experience required to translate this product pipeline into sustainable sales growth, thus further building on our market presence”, says Dr Ludger Müller, chairman of BRAIN AG’s supervisory board.

Dr Jürgen Eck, Chairman of BRAIN AG’s board of management, is delighted about the new joiner: “In Eric Marks, I have a tremendously experienced colleague by my side who can lighten my load with regard to sales and who is able to support me in operational and strategic issues. With our team strengthened thus, we will be able to drive our joint mission, the biologization of industries, even more vigorously and help the economy become more sustainable.“

“I have known Dr Jürgen Eck for many years, and I have come to appreciate his expertise very much. In many cooperation projects between Genencor or AB Enzymes and BRAIN, I was able to see how successfully BRAIN has developed over the past few years. Therefore I am delighted to now be a part of this unique company“, underscores Eric Marks, new COO at BRAIN AG.

Only in July of this year, BRAIN AG had made known that it was expanding its management team in view of the company’s growing operational units. Naming Eric Marks as the second chairman of the board augments this structure by an important capacity. As CEO, Dr Jürgen Eck now will be able to attend more closely to matters of strategy which concern the whole group. Since BRAIN currently is mostly financed by private equity, this also includes permanently being on the lookout for alternative possibilities regarding sound ways of financing growth in the future, e.g. through the capital market.

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About BRAIN

BRAIN AG is one of Europe's technological leaders in the field of industrial, or so-called white, biotechnology, the core discipline of the bioeconomy. Using proprietary technology platforms, the company identifies as yet untapped highly performant enzymes, microbial producer organisms or natural substances from complex biological systems in order to transform them into industrially or bioeconomically viable processes. Innovative solutions and products developed from this "toolbox of nature" are already successfully in use in the chemical industry as well as in the cosmetics and foodstuffs industry. BRAIN's business model is based on two divisions: "BioScience" and "BioIndustrial". The "BioScience" division includes the company's collaboration business with selected, globally positioned industrial partners, which is usually concluded on an exclusive basis and which has been successfully built and continuously expanded by the company for more than 20 years. The second division, "BioIndustrial", deals with the development and marketing of BRAIN's proprietary products and active product components. For more information, please visit www.brain-biotech.de.

Images:



Since 01 November 2015, Eric Marks has been part of the two-strong management board of BRAIN. On it, he holds the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO).

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Both pictures and text are also available from www.brain-biotech.de.