

PRESS RELEASE

BRAIN congratulates its NatLifE 2020 Partner Merck for Innovation Award

Zwingenberg, Germany, May 09, 2016: NatLifE-Coordinator BRAIN AG (ISIN DE0005203947 / WKN 520394), congratulates its strategic collaboration partner Merck to the 2016 BSB Innovation Award. Merck who in 2013 founded a strategic collaboration with BRAIN in the field of innovative cosmetics development, received the highly esteemed Innovation Award for its cosmetic ingredient RonaCare® SereneShield, jointly evaluated within Phase 1 of the strategic alliance NatLifE 2020 program. This renowned award within the cosmetics business was presented this year by an expert jury for the fourteenth time in April during the trade show InCosmetics in Paris.

Oily, blemished skin is not only a problem during puberty. Adults also suffer from skin problems and acne. The proven effect concept of the cosmetic active ingredient developed by Merck together with BRAIN to care for skin with irritations also convinced the BSB Innovation Award jury.

“Together with Merck we are very pleased about this renowned award and would like to congratulate our strategic partner on that great success. It is a result of the intense and productive cooperation between the two partners within NatLifE 2020. Within only two years we managed to

Contact:

B·R·A·I·N AG
Biotechnology Research
And Information Network AG
Dr. Martin Langer
Executive Vice President
Corporate Development
Darmstädter Str. 34-36
64673 Zwingenberg, Germany

Tel.: +49-6251-9331-16
Fax.: +49-6251-9331-11
E-Mail: ml@brain-biotech.de
www.brain-biotech.de

identify an innovative product candidate from the idea to the proven efficacy. Very shortly after having found these promising results our partner Merck noticed a broad interest from the cosmetic industry already”, says Dr. Michael Krohn, Executive VP BioActives Development at BRAIN. "For NatLifE this is the very first compound that made its way from early research along the value chain to the market. Our concept developed in the strategic alliance NatLifE 2020 works."

RonaCare® SereneShield was jointly investigated in the first two years of the NatLifE 2020 programme and is a pioneer of Merck's dermocosmetics portfolio, which comprises selected active ingredients to provide care for demanding skin. The product has a unique, special effect on the human skin. It readjusts the skin's own microflora, reduces inflammation and besides also regulates sebum production.

The early research on the molecule was partly funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the strategic alliance NatLifE 2020.

About NatLifE 2020

The NatLifE 2020 strategic alliance currently unites 22 industrial, SME and academic partners. The alliance with the funding code FKZ 031A206 is scheduled to last for nine years and has a total budget of Euro 30m. After winning the bid, the alliance was the first strategic alliance to be co-funded from February 01, 2013 under the German Ministry of Education and Research's "Innovation Initiative for Industrial Biotechnology" programme. The alliance's efforts are coordinated by BRAIN AG of Zwingenberg. Phase 2, the development phase of the alliance, will last for three years and started as planned on March 01, 2016.

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 102 strategic cooperations with nearly every prominent company in the chemical industry. Cooperation partners include BASF, Bayer Schering, Clariant, DSM, Evonik Degussa, Henkel, Merck, Nutrinova, RWE, Sandoz, Südzucker and Symrise. The company currently employs around 120 highly skilled personnel.

www.brain-biotech.de

About Merck

Merck is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 50,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2015, Merck generated sales of € 12.85 billion in 66 countries. Founded in 1668, Merck is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck, Darmstadt, Germany holds the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.

www.merckgroup.com

The text of this press release is also available from www.brain-biotech.de.