

News Release

Lonza Group Ltd
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Lonza grants UCB License to GS Gene Expression System™

Basel, 07.03.2007 - Lonza Group Ltd (SWX: LONN), the global life sciences company, announces that Lonza has granted UCB a non-exclusive, worldwide license to their GS Gene Expression System™ (GS: glutamine synthetase). The Research Evaluation Agreement covers the use of the GS Gene Expression System™ for research and development purposes.

An option to obtain a license to use the GS Gene Expression System™ for commercial purposes is included in the agreement. Standard payments and License fees are within the contract, the financial terms of which have not been disclosed.

With this agreement, Lonza continues to broaden its global reach and contribute to its long-term sustainability in the field of biopharmaceuticals for pharmaceutical applications.

“Lonza is pleased to enter into this agreement with UCB. As a leader in their field, we believe that having UCB select the GS Gene Expression System™ underscores the importance of this technology for the efficient production of therapeutic antibodies and recombinant proteins”, said Karen Fallen, Commercial Licensing Manager at Lonza.

We are pleased to have added the GS Gene Expression System™ technology to the suite of technologies and capabilities underpinning our Antibody discovery and development programmes” said Dr Neil Weir, Senior Vice President, Research, UCB.

The GS Gene Expression System™, which is owned and licensed by Lonza, is used for the production of therapeutic recombinant proteins and monoclonal antibodies. Over 80 biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies and over 70 academic laboratories worldwide have successfully used the GS Gene Expression System™, which has established itself as an industry standard. This system is characterized by its speed and ease of use. In addition, these higher-yielding cell lines provide cost-efficient production of therapeutic proteins.

About Lonza

Lonza is one of the world's leading suppliers to the pharmaceutical, healthcare and life science industries. Its products and services span its customers' needs from research to final product manufacture. Lonza is the global leader in the production and support of pharmaceutical active ingredients both chemically as well as biotechnologically. Biopharmaceuticals are one of the key growth drivers of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Lonza has strong capabilities in large and small molecules, peptides, amino acids and niche bioproducts which play an important role in the development of novel medicines and healthcare products. Lonza is also a leading provider of value chemical and biotech ingredients to the nutrition, hygiene, preservation, agro and personal care markets.

Lonza is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland and is listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange. In 2006 Lonza had sales of CHF 2.91 billion. Further information can be found at www.lonza.com.

About UCB

UCB (www.ucb-group.com) is a leading global biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the research, development and commercialization of innovative pharmaceutical and biotechnology products in the fields of central nervous system disorders, allergy/respiratory diseases, immune and inflammatory disorders and oncology – UCB focuses on securing a leading position in severe disease categories. Employing over 8,300 people in over 40 countries, UCB achieved revenue of 2.3 billion euro in 2005. UCB is listed on the Euronext Brussels Exchange. Worldwide headquarters are located in Brussels, Belgium.

For further information:

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