
ugichem extends management team

Innsbruck, August 19, 2011 --- ugichem today announced the extension of its management team. With the closing of the new financing round Dr. Ulrich Bodner and Dr. Jürgen Soutschek have joined ugichem. Both are experienced biotech professionals with a focus on gene silencing business.

Dr. Bodner has been in the Antisense and siRNA arena for nearly 20 years. He held various corporate and business development positions in companies such as Ribopharma / Alnylam and recently supported ugichem as a consultant. At ugichem he will now take care of corporate and business development.

Dr. Soutschek held various leading R&D positions at several gene silencing pioneers such as Devgen, Ribopharma, Alnylam or Regulus Therapeutics. Before joining ugichem he served as senior director at the San Diego-based Regulus Therapeutics. At ugichem he will be responsible for preclinical research and development.

ugichem's CEO Holger Bock comments: „We are proud to welcome Jürgen and Ulrich at ugichem. Their experience in the gene silencing field will allow us to fully exploit ugichem's potential.” Ulrich Bodner mentions: “ugichem seems to have the solution for the common antisense and siRNA problems. It is quite likely that the Ugimers will become the first broadly applicable therapeutic gene silencing approach” and Jürgen Soutschek adds: “I'm really enthused by the existing data. Successful delivery can be realized in areas that represent restrictions for other gene silencing technologies. In my view Ugimers currently are the only new and promising chemistry approach to gene silencing.”

About ugichem:

ugichem is developing proprietary new gene silencing therapeutics, the so-called Ugimers, which allow to overcome all shortcomings of established gene silencing technologies such as antisense oligonucleotides or siRNAs. In contrast to the latter Ugimers are not derived from natural nucleic acids but exclusively designed towards function. As a result cells currently inaccessible with standard gene silencing technologies or even defined cellular compartments become targetable by Ugimers without the need for additional delivery tools.

ugichem's mission is to establish the Ugimers as a new class of top-grade medicines, initially focusing on indications requiring targeting of immune cells which are currently not functionally accessible by standard gene silencing compounds. ugichem will further extend its Ugimer gene silencing technology into a therapeutic product platform dedicated to indications that are based on altered gene expression.

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