

Press Release

Oxford Gene Technology grants microarray licence to Febit

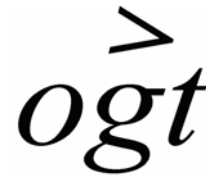
Oxford, September 19, 2005. Oxford Gene Technology (OGT), a pioneer in the development of molecular tools for biologists, recently granted a microarray licence to febit biotech gmbh.

Founded in April 2005, febit biotech gmbh, the phoenix company of febit ag, manufactures and markets Geniom[®], a Random Access Genomic Analyzer. This instrument was invented in the late nineties by a group led by Dr Fritz Stähler, and was developed into a marketable device by febit ag.

Dr Mike Evans, Chief Executive of OGT, said:” We are happy to support febit biotech’s technology by granting this licence and thus further the use of microarray technology”.

Peer Stähler, CSO of febit biotech gmbh said: “The agreement with OGT strengthens our IP and places us in a position to successfully market Geniom[®] worldwide.

The acquired licence refers to the “Southern array patents”, fundamental patents covering the manufacture and use of DNA microarrays, and will remain valid for the patents’ lifetime.



About OGT

Oxford Gene Technology (OGT) is a privately owned company founded in 1995 by Professor Sir Edwin Southern. The mission of the company is to develop advanced molecular tools for biologists and to make them widely available through licensing and service activities. The key business areas of OGT include

- licensing which has successfully provided access for a number of companies to OGT's fundamental intellectual property, particularly in the area of microarrays
- a services business which provides a flexible and cost-effective, customised DNA microarray service covering a range of applications and offers specialist support to assist customers with every aspect of their research.
- Tridend, which is developing 'mass tags' to enhance the amount of information that researchers can generate from mass spectrometry experiments in proteomics and genomics
- Oxamer, which is generating novel array formats based on electrochemical deposition methods for use in life science and diagnostics

OGT's intellectual property covers four general areas that are relevant to the biological sciences; these incorporate microarrays, genomics, proteomics and electrochemistry.

About febit biotech gmbh

febit biotech gmbh, of Heidelberg, Germany, is manufacturing the biochiptechnology based DNA-analysis device GENIOM[®]. The GENIOM platform - including the GENIOM instrument and the innovative biochip called DNA-processor[®] - allow fast and flexible genetic analyses. For the first time users can design and produce oligonucleotide microarrays of high density by use of in situ synthesis at their own lab bench. Sequence data are directly fed into the GENIOM, synthesis is started and in a matter of hours the individually established DNA array is ready for use in the biological experiment. Customers are using the bioanalyser GENIOM mainly in basic research in the field of molecular biology and medicine.

Further information:

<p>Oxford Gene Technology IP Limited Begbroke Business and Science Park, Sandy Lane, Yarnton, Oxford, OX5 1PF UK Tel: +44 (0) 1865 856 340 Fax: +44 (0) 1865 379 433 Email: licensing@ogt.co.uk Web: www.ogt.co.uk</p>	<p>© 2005 kdm communications limited Editorial contact for further information or follow-up Annabel Sedgwick at kdm communications limited, Bedford, UK Tel. +44 01234 210555 Fax: +44 01234 342397 email: ideas@kdm-communications.com</p>
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Further information:

<p>febit biotech gmbh Im Neuenheimer Feld 515 69120 Heidelberg Germany Tel: +49 (0) 6221 873344-0 Fax: +49 (0) 6221 873344-2 Email: info@febit.de Web: www.febit.de</p>	<p>Press contact Lena Raditsch Public Relations Tel: +49 (0) 6201 878723 Email: lena.raditsch@febit.de</p>
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