

Assay.Works GmbH, Am Biopark 11, 93053 Regensburg

NEWS RELEASE

Assay.Works doubles size of its small molecule screening library for Drug Discovery through a cooperation with BioAscent.

Regensburg, Germany, 02 May 2017: Assay.Works GmbH (Assay.Works), a CRO specialized in assay development and high-throughput screening (HTS) services today announced a cooperation agreement with BioAscent Discovery Ltd. (BioAscent) that will expand the Assay.Works screening library to 150,000 small molecules.

The agreement gives Assay.Works clients access to additional compound collections complementing the existing "lead like" library of 74,000 substances. All compounds were selected using common "lead likeness", structural diversity, and chemotype criteria.

Combining HTS approaches with high quality compound libraries facilitates the identification of unique and tractable molecules as starting points for drug discovery programmes. Increasing the number of quality compounds screened also increases the likelihood of finding lead candidates.

Dr Johannes Knop, co-founder and COO, Assay.Works, commented:

We are excited about the opportunity to now offer our clients access to up to 150,000 quality compounds for their drug discovery screening projects. With their extensive experience in designing and managing compound collections, BioAscent is the right partner for efficiently expanding our small molecule library. We share a common quality desire and the team at BioAscent is well equipped to deliver at the highest industry standards.

Dr Simon MacKenzie, CEO of BioAscent, commented:

We are very happy to be working with Assay.Works, supporting them in their hunt for new lead molecules for their clients. Our respective capabilities complement each other perfectly to provide a strong drug discovery service, and the use of our collection, formerly part of the Schering-Plough small molecule collection, is exactly what it was designed for.

Media and trade contacts

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About Assay.Works

Assay.Works is a contract research organization (CRO) providing research services to pharmaceutical/biotech companies and academic organizations in form of fee-for-service work.

Our mission is to accelerate our partner's research programs by developing and executing predictive and scalable assays to quantify the bioactivity of novel chemical and biological entities. We combine scientific rigor with our domain expertise in laboratory automation, informatics, and industry best practices to turn challenging assays into quantitative, reproducible results.

Assay.Works' service portfolio includes Assay Development, Cell Line Engineering and Production of Cellular Reagents, Bioactivity Assessments, Quantitative Biology Applications, and High-Throughput Screening (HTS).

For more information, see: www.assay.works

About BioAscent Discovery Ltd.

Founded in 2013, BioAscent operates the former Merck Sharpe and Dohme automated compound management and logistics facility in Scotland, UK. The company offers the state-of-the-art compound collection management services, in addition to formatting and worldwide logistics.

BioAscent was selected as the Centre of Excellence for the compound management activities of the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)-funded European Lead Factory, providing secure storage and logistics of the 500,000 sample collection to all seven major pharmaceutical company partners.

In addition to the management and distribution of sample collections, BioAscent provides rapid online access to chemical collections through www.compoundcloud.com, offering a completely customisable ex-pharma compound collection in ready to screen formats. Compound Cloud is also used to promote novel compound collections to the world-wide BioAscent drug discovery network, on behalf of the collection owners.

For more information, see: www.bioascent.com