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Roche Diagnostics acquires license for novel expression system "LEXSY" from Jena Bioscience GmbH

Roche Diagnostics has acquired a non-exclusive license for Jena Bioscience's LEXSY technology for the production of recombinant proteins. LEXSY will primarily be used for the expression of proteins that are expressed at low yields or inactive in the established expression systems.

LEXSY (*Leishmania Expression System*) is based on a S1-classified unicellular organism that combines easy handling with a full eukaryotic protein folding and modification machinery including mammalian-like glycosylation. LEXSY has been evaluated by Roche Diagnostics during a two year feasibility study for a number of problematic expression projects. 13 out of the 16 proteins evaluated at Roche's Penzberg site were successfully expressed in LEXSY. The expression yields reached levels of up to 50 mg/L of culture.

The licensing agreement in between Roche Diagnostics and Jena Bioscience includes a tight cooperation of the two companies for further development and exploitation of the LEXSY technology.

(please see next page for pictures)

Contact data:

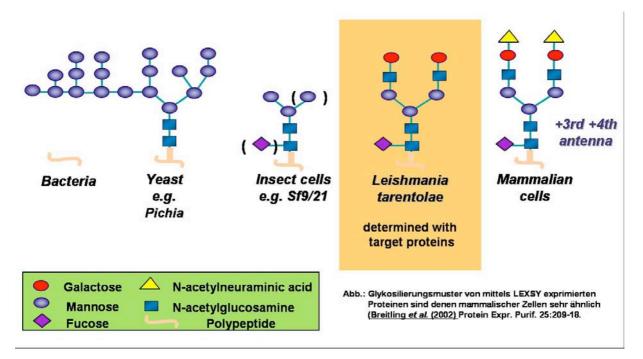
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Information about Jena Bioscience GmbH:

Jena Bioscience GmbH was founded in 1998 as a spin-off of the Max-Planck-Institute in Dortmund, Germany. Its business idea is based upon the development and marketing of its proprietary Protein Expression System LEXSY. In a very short period of time, Jena Bioscience developed into a very successful, globally active reagent supplier, serving customers in over 40 countries. The primary export markets for Jena Bioscience are the United States, Europe and Asia.

Jena Bioscience concentrates on three product groups: Nucleotides and nucleotide analogs for very demanding research applications; kits and tools for protein crystallography and LEXSY. A second area of activity in this product group is the supply of recombinant proteins as tailor-made reagents with a focus on signal transduction, as well as DNA-modifying and fungi enzymes.

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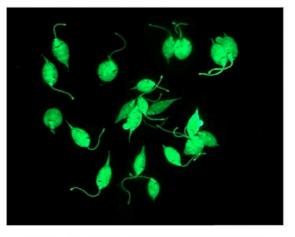


Abb.: LEXSY bei der Expression des Green Fluorescent Protein (eGFP)

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