



Press Release

Montreal, Canada, April 21st, 2009.

PCAS Enters the Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis Market by offering a new solid support resin

PCAS, a worldwide leading company in Pharma Synthesis and Fine Specialty Chemicals, announced today that it has signed a worldwide exclusive licence agreement with Matrix Innovation Inc. to develop the sales of an innovative resin technology used as solid support for the peptide synthesis. With this agreement, PCAS will be well established in this fast growing market offering important growth opportunities.

PCAS also announced the creation of a new entity, PCAS BioMatrix Inc, which will be responsible of the commercialisation of this technology and resin.

"The fast growing peptide market is estimated at more US\$ 9 billion. More than 40 peptide drugs are already on the market to treat diseases such as hypertension, osteoporosis, asthma and diabetes and, probably more than 800 projects are currently at different preclinical and clinical trials phases" comments Dr. Karine Salim, Biotech Strategic Marketing Manager of PCAS.

"Today's challenge is to synthesize longer and more complex therapeutic polypeptides. This is where ChemMatrix®, the polyethylene glycol based resin developed and patented by Matrix Innovation Inc., has substantial advantages over the other available resins. In addition, peptides produced with ChemMatrix® have higher purity and can be obtained with better yield."

The ChemMatrix® is a technological platform that can be applied to several other applications. The combination of PCAS pharmaceutical expertise and the resin knowledge of Matrix Innovation will enable to develop successfully this market while offering a real value proposition to its customers.

"We have been working closely with St Jean Photochemicals Inc (SJPC), PCAS Canadian subsidiary for many years and have signed in 2005 an exclusive collaboration and industrial development agreement for the manufacturing of the ChemMatrix® resin with great results. With the strong market knowledge of PCAS, we are confident in the success of our new association" said Rock Therrien, Matrix Innovation's Chief Executive Officer.

The terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

PCAS BioMatrix Inc.

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About Matrix Innovation

Located in Quebec, Canada, Matrix Innovation (www.matrix-innovation.com) is specialized in the development of Polyethylene Glycol (PEG) resins used in peptide synthesis. These resins demonstrated substantial advantages over polystyrene resins for the synthesis of long, complex or hydrophobic peptides.

About PCAS

PCAS (www.pcas.com) is a group listed on the Euronext compartment C. PCAS, a leading Fine Chemical company, operating 8 chemical plants in Europe & North America, offers world-class services related to process development and manufacturing of high added-value molecules or molecules of a strong technological content from kilolabs to ton scale for pharmaceutical, flavour & fragrance, cosmetic and Industrial sectors.

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