

ROTTAPHARM: Rottapharm Biotech was founded after the acquisition of the research laboratory of Basovizza, a branch of Lay Line Genomics S.p.A..

Monza, 3rd of November 2008 - Rottapharm|Madaus, the multinational Italian pharmaceutical company headquartered in Monza, reached an agreement with Lay Line Genomics S.p.A. for the acquisition of the laboratory of biotechnological research of Basovizza (TS).

Rottapharm Biotech S.r.l., created after the acquisition, is a company of biotechnologies committed to the research and development of therapeutic agents based on recombinant antibodies designed to cure severe pathologies.

Rottapharm Biotech intends to utilize the proprietary technology, coined SPLINT, to single out the therapeutic antibodies to be used in the cure of diseases of the muscular-skeletal system. In the future, Rottapharm Biotech will be employed in the development of antibodies designed for other therapeutic areas in which the Rottapharm|Madaus Group is active.

Rottapharm Biotech is situated in the Science Park AREA, the first multi-sectored Scientific and technological Park of Italy and one of the most important in Europe, where research, development and innovation are performed to attain excellence results. From 2005, it has been the National Entity of research of level 1 of the Ministry of University and Research (MiUR), with the priority goal of technological transfer. Currently, the area houses 22 centers and hi-tech companies, such as CBM (Consortium of Molecular Biomedicine), which manages the National District of Molecular Biomedicine.

For the Rottapharm|Madaus Group, this operation represents an important occasion to reaffirm and further strengthen its leadership in the sector of osteoarticular research, perfectly integrating the already existing research programs.

“We are pleased to announce the creation of Rottapharm Biotech after the acquisition of the laboratory of Basovizza – explained Professor Lucio Rovati, Chief Scientific Officer of Rotta Research Laboratory, Department of Research & Development of Rottapharm – This important step confirms the will of the Rottapharm|Madaus Group to continue to invest in Research & Development in a sector of high potential like the one of osteoarticular research.”

“Despite the negative situation that is characterizing the international economic panorama – added Lucio Rovati - in 2009, Rottapharm|Madaus is planning to invest more than 10% of its income in Research & Development, which demonstrates the importance given by the Group to scientific research.”

Rottapharm|Madaus is a multinational pharmaceutical group of Italian capital with its headquarters and research centre in Monza and branches in over 85 countries. Since its creation, Rottapharm has distinguished itself in its commitment in designing, development and marketing of innovative drugs for the treatment of specific pathologies. Currently, research is focused on gastroenterology; bronco-pneumology, psychiatry, rheumatology, gynecology, cardiology and oncology. Rottapharm|Madaus is also present in the market of personal care products distributed in pharmacies – where it holds a leadership position – and in the field of nutraceuticals.

Rottapharm|Madaus finished the year of 2007 with a revenue of 551 million Euros and an EBITDA of 131 million Euros.