



## PRESS RELEASE

# VTU Technology and Boehringer Ingelheim strengthen their global microbial technology collaboration

Grambach and Vienna, Austria – April 27, 2016

VTU Technology, the Austrian protein expression expert announced today the expansion of their global technology collaboration with Boehringer Ingelheim RCV GmbH & Co. KG, a global research-driven pharmaceutical company. After successful completion of a first development program, followed by prolongation of the collaboration, Boehringer Ingelheim is now widening the technological scope. The collaboration includes the advancement of Boehringer Ingelheim's *E. coli* expression platform in addition to the competitive optimization of *Pichia pastoris* platforms for the production of biopharmaceuticals.

“The intensification of our joint development program underlines the potential and capabilities of VTU Technology and our skilled and experienced team. This collaboration gives VTU certain access rights to Boehringer Ingelheim's proprietary *E. coli* expression technologies broadening VTU's range of services”, said Dr. Thomas Purkarthofer, Head of Business Development of VTU Technology.

“Widening our cooperation with VTU Technology increases our capabilities and resources for the development of microbial based biopharmaceutical processes. Including *E. coli* based expression systems to the existing successful cooperation will strengthen our technology leadership and add significant potential for both companies“, said Georg Klima, Executive Director Process Science Austria at Boehringer Ingelheim.

### About Boehringer Ingelheim

The Boehringer Ingelheim group is one of the world's 20 leading pharmaceutical companies. Headquartered in Ingelheim, Germany, Boehringer Ingelheim operates globally with 145 affiliates and a total of more than 47,500 employees. The focus of the family-owned company, founded in 1885, is researching, developing, manufacturing and marketing new medications of high therapeutic value for human and veterinary medicine. In 2015, Boehringer Ingelheim achieved net sales of about 14.8 billion euros. R&D expenditure corresponds to 20.3 % of its net sales.

For more information, please visit [www.boehringer-ingelheim.com](http://www.boehringer-ingelheim.com)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/boehringer](https://twitter.com/boehringer)

As a leading biopharmaceutical contract manufacturer with more than 35 years of experience – the company has brought more than 25 biopharmaceutical products to market. Boehringer Ingelheim Biopharma Contract Manufacturing is represented by its brand Boehringer Ingelheim BioXcellence™. Boehringer Ingelheim BioXcellence™ offers tailor-made contract development and manufacturing services to the biopharmaceutical industry. The services comprise the entire production technology chain from DNA to fill and finish under one brand at its facilities in Biberach (Germany), Vienna (Austria), Fremont (USA) and Shanghai (China). Boehringer Ingelheim BioXcellence™ can secure product supply throughout the entire product lifecycle-transferring customer projects at any stage, delivering to almost any scale and thereby makes outsourcing easy.



Boehringer Ingelheim will make a significant investment in biopharmaceutical production at its Vienna (Austria) site. There the company will establish a new large-scale biopharmaceutical production facility for active ingredients manufactured using cell cultures. With the roughly half billion euro investment Boehringer Ingelheim will also create more than 400 new jobs in the Austrian capital. The new production plant will go into operation by 2021.

More information: [www.bioxcellence.com](http://www.bioxcellence.com)

### **About VTU Technology**

VTU Technology, a leading contract research and development company, offers the broadest toolbox and most versatile technology platform available for *Pichia pastoris* recombinant protein production. VTU develops high performance expression strains and economically viable protein production processes for the manufacture of biopharmaceuticals, enzymes and various other recombinant proteins.

Headquartered in Grambach/Graz, Austria, VTU Technology is a private company and a subsidiary of VTU Holding, an Austrian enterprise that combines several technology and engineering companies in chemistry, pharma & life science. The VTU group currently counts more than 420 highly qualified people working in several subsidiaries in different European countries. From 2013 to 2015, the VTU group was able to boost its turnover from 40 million euros to 72 million euros. More information: [www.vtu-technology.com](http://www.vtu-technology.com), [www.vtu.com](http://www.vtu.com)

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