

Optibrium Joins Hepatic and Cardiac Toxicity Systems Project and Expands R&D Team

CAMBRIDGE, UK, 8 October, 2013 – Optibrium, a developer of software for drug discovery, today announced that it will join the HeCaToS (Hepatic and Cardiac Toxicity Systems) project, a major European project with the objective to efficiently investigate the health impact of compounds on the heart and liver. The EU is providing twelve million Euros for the project, which is co-ordinated by Maastricht UMC+.

In the course of the project, Optibrium will extend and advance its unique quantum mechanical models that predict metabolism by Cytochrome P450 enzymes, while further developments will focus on predicting the formation of reactive or toxic metabolites. The resulting models will be integrated into the HeCaToS system, to determine if metabolites of new compounds may damage the liver and heart, and support the project's aim to enable the development of safer medications, cosmetics and industrial chemicals.

Optibrium has recruited new members to its R&D team to facilitate this project and simultaneously accelerate its software development plans. In particular, to lead its contribution to the HeCaToS project, Optibrium has appointed Dr Patrik Rydberg as Associate Director of Computational Chemistry. Patrik joins Optibrium from the Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology at the University of Copenhagen, where he was Associate Professor. As part of the P450 group in this department, Patrik led the development of the SMARTCyp software and undertook pioneering research on the prediction of metabolism. Patrik will also provide leadership on wider research efforts relating to Optibrium's StarDrop software, adding his extensive computational chemistry experience to the development of this platform that guides the design and selection of high quality compounds in drug discovery.

Patrik commented, "I am delighted to be joining the Optibrium team and working on the HeCaToS project. This project, with its objective to better predict hepatic and cardiac toxicity, provides an exciting context in which to advance the field of metabolism prediction."

For further information on Optibrium and StarDrop, please visit www.optibrium.com, contact info@optibrium.com or call +44 1223 815900.

For more information on the HeCaToS project, please see the press release from Maastricht UMC+ at:

<http://www.mumc.nl/actueel/nieuws/veiliger-en-effectiever-chemicalien-testen-zonder-proefdieren>.



Funded by the
European Union



ENDS

Media contact

Sarah Jeffery

Zyme Communications

E-mail: sarah.jeffery@zymecommunications.com

Phone: +44 (0) 7771 730919

Optibrium

Nick Foster

Director, Business Development

E-mail: nick@optibrium.com

Phone: +44 (0)1223 815900

About Optibrium Ltd.

Optibrium provides drug discovery software solutions that bring confidence to the selection and design of high quality candidate drugs. The Company's flagship platform, StarDrop, creates an intuitive, highly visual and flexible environment to facilitate and speed up lead identification and optimisation, quickly targeting effective drug candidates with a high probability of success downstream.

Founded in 2009, Optibrium continues to develop StarDrop and research novel technologies to improve the efficiency and productivity of the drug discovery process. Optibrium works closely with its broad range of customers and collaborators, that include leading global pharma companies, biotech and academic groups.

Visit the online community at <http://www.optibrium.com/community/> for further discussions on improving the productivity of drug discovery.

About Maastricht UMC+

Maastricht University Medical Centre+ ('Maastricht UMC+') is known both nationally and internationally for its focus on prevention, so not only rehabilitation but also health maintenance and health promotion. In addition to providing top-quality clinical and referral care, our core activities include scientific research and education/training. The hallmark the Maastricht UMC+ is its multidisciplinary and problem-based learning approach. The Maastricht university hospital, which has 715 beds, employs approximately 7,000 people, and educates 4,000 students, is a member of the NFU, the Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres