



Optibrium and Bugworks Sign Agreement for StarDrop License

Antimicrobial resistance Biopharma selects StarDrop to guide discovery of next generation of antibiotics

CAMBRIDGE, UK and BENGALURU, INDIA, 25 July 2017 – Optibrium™, a developer of software for small molecule discovery, and Bugworks Research Inc. (Bugworks), a company focused on discovering biopharmaceuticals for the treatment of critical and serious bacterial infections, today announced the signing of a two-year agreement to license Optibrium's StarDrop™ software. The agreement will see deployment of StarDrop and five of its plug-in modules enabling Bugworks' scientists at their research site in India to quickly understand structure-activity relationships, identify potential liabilities and design new compounds with the highest chance of success.

Dr V. Balasubramanian, President R&D of Bugworks commented: "The antibiotic pipeline lacks new mechanisms against drug resistant Gram-negative bacteria. Our own in-house efforts to address this are complemented by StarDrop's intuitive user interface and unique approach to multi-parameter optimisation and compound design."

Nick Foster, Optibrium's Head of Commercial Operations, added: "We are delighted to welcome Bugworks to the family of StarDrop users. Antibiotic resistance is a growing global concern and we look forward to supporting the use of StarDrop in the discovery of new ways to combat superbugs."

Dr Girinath Pillai, CEO at Zastrain, Optibrium's distribution partner in India, added: "We are very pleased to have been able to support Optibrium and Bugworks in establishing the license agreement. We will continue to ensure easy and fast access to StarDrop with our dedicated team for local on-call and on-site support."

StarDrop is a comprehensive suite of integrated software with a highly visual and user-friendly interface. It enables a seamless flow from the latest data through to predictive modelling and decision-making regarding the next round of synthesis and research, improving the speed, efficiency, and productivity of the drug discovery process. Seamlessly connecting with other informatics methods and databases, StarDrop provides user-friendly access to resources, making project management quicker and simpler.

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

For further information on Zastrain, please visit www.zastrain.com or contact info@zastrain.com.

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About Optibrium Ltd.

Optibrium provides elegant software solutions for small molecule design, optimisation and data analysis. The company's lead product, StarDrop, is a comprehensive suite of integrated software with a highly visual and user-friendly interface. StarDrop enables a seamless flow from the latest data through to predictive modelling and decision-making regarding the next round of synthesis and research, improving the speed, efficiency, and productivity of the discovery process.

Founded in 2009, Optibrium is headquartered in Cambridge, UK with offices in Boston, US. Optibrium continues to develop new products 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, agrochemical and flavouring companies, biotech and academic groups.

For further information visit www.optibrium.com or join in discussions on improving the productivity of drug discovery at www.optibrium.com/community.

About Zastra Innovations

Zastra is a company designed for today's world with partners working on three continents and in different time zones. Zastra entered into the Indian market, where their principals already have several clients across the country. Zastra works with leading pharmaceutical, automotive, oil, electronics, steel and manufacturing companies and universities in India. The company has pursued a long-term vision to provide an integrated portfolio of software and services to scientific research institutes, universities, colleges, commercial organisations and the Government.

For further information visit www.zastrain.com.

About Bugworks Research

Bugworks Research (Bugworks) is a drug discovery company that aims to discover novel biopharmaceutical assets for the treatment of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and specifically, to enable the development of opportunities to combat Gram-negative superbugs.

Bugworks has a strong inter-disciplinary team with competencies in entrepreneurship, mathematics, engineering, IT, biochemistry, microbiology, molecular biology, pharmacology and medicinal chemistry. Towards the treatment of antimicrobial resistance, the company has developed a stealth strategy to avoid efflux liability and a potentiation strategy that enables the entry of antibiotics into Gram negative pathogens; two key barriers in development of the next generation of successful antibiotics.