

Lonza And Bio*One Capital Fuel Singapore's Biomedical Industry With New S\$350m Facility

Lonza gave its vote of confidence in Singapore's biomedical industry when it partnered Singapore Economic Development Board's (EDB) Bio*One Capital to build its S\$350 million (US\$230.2 million) large-scale commercial mammalian cell culture manufacturing facility. Located in Tuas Biomedical Park, Lonza Biologics Tuas Pte Ltd represents the company's second mammalian manufacturing plant in Singapore, and the third one globally.

Lonza Biologics will have up to four mammalian bioreactor trains, each with a flexible capacity of between 1,000-20,000 litres, and respective purification units. The first phase of construction for the manufacturing facility was initiated a month before the groundbreaking ceremony on March 2007, and it's expected to be completed and fully operational in 2011; it will have an estimated staff strength of 350 when the project is fully realised.

STRENGTHENING SUPPLY CAPABILITIES

"In line with Lonza's strategy to develop its capabilities and expand the biopharmaceuticals business in the fast-growing Asian market, this facility marks an important milestone as Lonza reinforces its leading position as a global custom manufacturer of biopharmaceuticals," says Dr Stephan Kutzer, Chairman, Lonza Biologics Tuas Pte Ltd. "The facility will operate with cutting-edge technology and a skilled labour force and will be able to manufacture products with a wide array of processes, yields and technologies. This second Lonza facility in Singapore will meet the needs of a variety of customers and will address the growing global biologics demand."

One of the world's leading manufacturers in the pharmaceutical, healthcare and life sciences industries, Lonza's products and services extend from R&D to manufacturing of final products. It also plays a vital role in the development of novel medicines and healthcare and is a leading provider of value-added chemical and biotech ingredients to the nutrition, hygiene, preservation, agrochemical, and personal care markets.

Partnering Lonza in establishing its second manufacturing facility is Bio*One Capital Pte Ltd, a leading biomedical sciences investment management company in Asia with a global presence. It oversees a portfolio of over 60 companies in the US, Europe, Singapore and Asia. The company plays a vital role in bridging and supporting companies' growth strategies in Asia through their operations in Singapore.

"This strategic partnership between Lonza and Bio*One has helped to build the biologics manufacturing capabilities and grow a critical mass of biologics activities in Singapore," says Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore. "Within a period of less than two years, four commercial scale biologics manufacturing investments have been announced

RECOGNISING BIOLOGICS' GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE GLOBAL BIOMEDICAL INDUSTRY, LONZA HAS COLLABORATED WITH BIO*ONE CAPITAL TO MEET ITS CUSTOMERS' NEEDS WITH ITS SECOND MAMMALIAN MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN SINGAPORE.

Bio*One
SINGAPORE

Lonza Biologics Tuas Pte. Ltd. Groundbreaking Ceremony

Lonza

Guest of honour:

Mr Lim Hng Kiang
Minister for Trade & Industry

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(L-R) Philip Yeo, Chairman, A*STAR; HE Daniel Woker, Ambassador of Switzerland; Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore; Dr Stephan Kutzer, Chairman, Lonza Biologics Tuas Pte Ltd; and Chu Swee Yeok, Chief Executive Officer, Bio*One Capital

in Singapore. All these projects are a strong endorsement of Singapore as a choice site to host world class biologics manufacturing activities."

FIRM BUSINESS TIES

Lonza's first biologics manufacturing facility in Tuas Biomedical Park was established earlier in 2006 and the expansion of its manufacturing facilities is an affirmation of Lonza's strong relationship with Bio*One Capital. This second joint venture is a repeat investment that underscores the strength of Lonza's partnership with Singapore.

"We came to Singapore for a number of reasons. As the worldwide leader in biopharmaceutical contract manufacturing, we were determined to build our presence in the Asian

market to support our growing life science customer base," explains Kutzer. "Singapore was selected due to its committed work force, excellent educational system, competitive cost position and strong IP protection laws. The facilities provide additional needed capacity required to meet our strategic goal for growth and to remain the leader in biopharmaceutical contract manufacturing. It is also a geographically strategic location, which complements Lonza's existing infrastructure."

With such strong synergy shown between both organisations, and boosted by the growing biologics industry, not just in Singapore but globally as well, this partnership looks set to blossom in the days to come. 