

LGC Standards partners with PRIMACYT to improve access to hepatocytes for drug discovery research

Improved access to fresh hepatocyte cells for drug discovery researchers

15 February 2011, UK - LGC Standards is delighted to announce the addition of the PRIMACYT range of *in-vitro* products and services to its portfolio of life science research and drug discovery products. PRIMACYT currently offers hepatocyte cells to the drug discovery research community throughout Europe and the partnership with LGC Standards will facilitate a wider distribution of these cells and allow greater access to these important *in-vitro* models.

The drug development community recognises the need for improved *in-vitro* modelling systems and the collaboration between LGC – which holds the designated role as the UK's National Measurement Institute for chemical and bioanalytical measurement – and highly innovative companies such as PRIMACYT provides an ideal platform from which to develop new and more effective *in-vitro* systems and to facilitate their distribution.

Elizabeth Jordain, Managing Director LGC Standards commented: *“We are delighted to add the PRIMACYT in-vitro products and services to our drug discovery products and services portfolio. The application and development of improved in-vitro systems as predictors of in-vivo response is a key area of focus for our ADMETox business and we believe the partnership with PRIMACYT creates an ideal opportunity for our two companies to work together to develop improved systems for in-vitro analysis. We expect that the PRIMACYT collaboration will offer opportunities to expand both the range of products available in the PRIMACYT portfolio and to develop new distribution channels for these important model systems for the drug discovery and development community.”*

Dieter Runge, Managing Director at PRIMACYT said, *“We have seen significant increase in the demand for fresh hepatocytes to support in-vitro research and our partnership with LGC Standards offers an ideal platform from which to implement our product development and expanded distribution initiatives.”*

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Notes to editors

About LGC Standards

LGC Standards provides products and services to improve measurement and quality control within the laboratory, and is part of LGC, whose LGC Science & Technology Division acts as the UK National Measurement Institute for chemical and bioanalytical measurements. LGC Standards supplies over 100,000 products, including reference materials, pharmaceutical impurity reference standards (produced under ISO Guide 34 accreditation), biological standards and reagents, and proficiency testing. LGC Standards is headquartered in Teddington, Middlesex, UK. Its global centre for excellence in proficiency testing is located in Bury (Greater Manchester). LGC Standards has offices in France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, China, Russia, United Arab Emirates and the UK, a joint venture presence in India, and representatives in Brazil, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, Romania, Turkey and the US.

About LGC

LGC (www.lgc.co.uk) is an international science-based company and market leader in analytical, forensic and diagnostic services and reference standards. LGC operates in a variety of markets which underpin the safety, health and security of the public and the regulation of industry, for both public and private sector clients.

LGC operates internationally through four divisions - LGC Forensics, LGC Genomics, LGC Standards and LGC Science & Technology. The latter includes specialist laboratories delivering contracts for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and supports LGC's designated role as the UK's National Measurement Institute for chemical and bioanalytical measurement.

Our operations are extensively accredited to international quality standards such as ISO 17025. With headquarters in Teddington, South West London, the LGC Group employs ca 1,400 staff in 29 laboratories and centres globally. Privatised in 1996 and now majority-owned by funds managed by Bridgepoint, LGC was founded almost 170 years ago as the Laboratory of the Government Chemist - a statutory function maintained by LGC today.

About PRIMACYT

PRIMACYT Cell Culture Technology GmbH (www.primacyt.eu), located in the technology- and business park in Schwerin, provides services in the area of in vitro technologies for pharmaceutical and biotech industry. Human and animal hepatocytes are offered as biosensoric assay systems for pharmacologic-toxicological analyses of drugs and for analysis of chemicals and environmental substances.

With HEPAC², the human hepatocyte cell culture system developed by PRIMACYT, clinical functional liver parameters in patients should be better predetermined than by animal studies. Since 2006 PRIMACYT offers studies in compliance with GLP, a quality control systems demanded from international administration authorities for accreditation of newly developed drugs.

For further information contact:

<p>Amanda Russell Marketing Manager LGC Standards Queens Road Teddington Middlesex TW11 0LY UK Tel: +44 (0)20 8943 7412 Fax: +44 (0)20 8943 7009 Email: amanda.russell@lgcstandards.com www.lgcstandards.com</p>	<p>Gavin Dallas Press & Communications Officer LGC Queens Road Teddington Middlesex TW11 0LY UK Tel: +44 (0)20 8943 8491 Fax: +44 (0)20 8943 2767 Email: gavin.dallas@lgc.co.uk www.lgc.co.uk</p>
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<p>Dieter Runge PRIMACYT Cell Culture Technology GmbH Hagenower Str. 73 D-19061 Schwerin FRG Tel: +49 (0)385 3993 600 Fax: +49 (0)385 3993 602 Email: dieter.runge@primacyt.de www.primacyt.eu www.primacyt.de</p>	
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