



PRESS RELEASE

Issued 28 July 2009

FRENCH CONNECTION FOR OBAN BIOTECH COMPANY

OBAN biotech company GlycoMar Ltd is to collaborate with French microalgae specialist Phycosource SARL, based at Cergy-Pontoise just outside Paris. Phycosource will supply novel products to GlycoMar for evaluation of their potential as pharmaceutical drugs.

The agreement is the first stage in a collaboration that will add new products to GlycoMar's drug discovery pipeline and add value to Phycosource's products by identifying pharmaceutical applications. These products are isolated from microalgae, which are microscopic algae found in fresh water and marine systems, grown in highly controlled bioreactor systems.

GlycoMar is based at the European Centre for Marine Biology near Oban. The company was set up by managing director Dr Charlie Bavington in 2005 to develop new drugs from marine organisms. The agreement will provide a wide range of novel products which GlycoMar will evaluate for their potential as anti-inflammatory drugs, that could be used to treat disease like asthma.

Dr Bavington explained: "Phycosource have unique expertise in microalgae, and world class capabilities in discovery of products from microalgae. This agreement will extend our existing research and provide potentially valuable new products for our discovery pipeline. This type of collaboration is a great opportunity for both companies and is a good model for innovative technology businesses with limited resources."

Phycosource is an innovative company founded in 2006 by the R&D team at Evaflor to explore the exceptional but little used potential of microalgae in the field of pharmaceutical and cosmeceutical biologically active substances.

Mr Elie Duran Managing Director of Phycosource said: "In the Natural Products Drug Discovery arena, SME organizations have recently promoted multiple compounds into clinical development and some have launched their first (and even second) small molecule products. GlycoMar's approach focusing on high probability of success targets, complemented by Phycosource's innovative smart compound collection, could take part in these success stories. By now, thanks to well-defined network collaboration rules, it should be clear that size has little bearing on success and failure in drug discovery."

The research carried out by GlycoMar will be cell-based and will not involve any testing on animals.

Ends

Notes to newsdesks:

For further information on GlycoMar visit www.glycomar.com

For further information on Phycosource visit www.phycosource.com/en

For further information contact:

Dr Charlie Bavington, GlycoMar Ltd

T: 01631 559370

M: 07833 108875

E: charlie@glycomar.com

Twitter: [@cbav](https://twitter.com/cbav)