



ImmunID and Roche Diagnostics France establish a technical collaboration with a view to standardizing immunomonitoring through molecular biology.

One of the missions of ImmunID is to provide innovative solutions in the field of immunomonitoring. For this, ImmunID wished to combine the Immune Forecast Stations (IFS) and ImmunTraCkeR® and Immun'Ig® tests with the molecular biology expertise of Roche Diagnostics. Roche Diagnostics is well known as a pioneer in the quantitative real time PCR field with its Light Cycler 480 range designed for "High-throughput" applications in 96 and 384 sample formats. This system is adaptable to robotized distribution stations and can be connected directly to a general laboratory computer system. In particular, it uses pilot software which complies with the current recommendations for the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries (FDA directive CFR21 part 11).

"We are happy to have established this technical collaboration with a company like Roche Diagnostics to allow the fifth generation of our IFS to use Light Cycler machines. This collaboration will help ImmunID in its mission to offer better standardization for its innovative immunomonitoring services to the pharmaceutical industry, to biotechnology companies and to academic laboratories. This technical collaboration also shows the growing links between start-ups and large groups within the Rhône Alpes region, thanks to the impetus provided by Lyonbiopôle. This type of collaboration contributes to the acceleration of the availability of innovative solutions in personalized medicine for the drugs industry, but also and, essentially, in the future to better diagnose patients suffering from immunological disorders" states **Nicolas Pasqual, president of ImmunID**.

"Roche Diagnostics France, as a member of Lyonbiopôle, is happy with the choice of Light Cycler technology for the automation of the workflow and the development of the catalogue of standardized services offered by ImmunID. This technical collaboration around the Light Cycler is in line with the strategy of the Roche group in support of initiatives in the field of personalized medicine and the standardization of diagnostic methods in the search for new biomarkers" adds **Frank Willemse, marketing director at Roche Diagnostics France**.

"This technical collaboration aims to bring a higher level of automation to the work flow of molecular biology analyses for the IFS5 in order to lean towards a more "user friendly" system that is as robust and automated as possible. This new generation of IFS is located at the Infectiology Center in Lyon. And, more precisely, is at the heart of an integrated offer of immunomonitoring expertise proposed by the PLATINE consortium of which ImmunID is a partner along with biotech companies Transgene and Innate Pharma. Synergies between the industrial projects may emerge..." indicates **Sébastien Weisbuch, Chief Operating Officer at ImmunID**.

"To offer these new research tools for clinical applications we have to be able to guarantee the quality of the data and the security of the process. In order for the pharmaceutical industry, and eventually clinicians, to take advantage of these innovations rapidly they must be compatible with existing systems. The Immune Forecast Station IFS has been developed to communicate with laboratory robots and to participate in the flow of clinical data generated. Inter-operationality with Roche Diagnostics products is that much more important." adds **Jean François Mouret, Technical Director at ImmunID**.

"I am very happy with the agreement between ImmunID and Roche Diagnostics, it reflects the fruitful relationships that can be established between an innovative young company and a multinational solidly rooted in the global biology and health market. This collaboration will be a means of accelerating the development of very standardized tests for which Proof of Concept has been established through an exemplary collaboration between ImmunID and several hospitals in the region. Lyonbiopôle puts forward a particular work ethic: a balanced structuring of the relationships between the clinical world, the research sector, SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) and large industrial groups" concludes **Bernard Mandrand, scientific director at Lyonbiopôle**.

About ImmunID: Located in Grenoble and Lyon, ImmunID is leader in the field of analysis of the combinatorial diversity of the immune repertoire. Thanks to the original concept of "immune forecast" ImmunID offers diagnostic and innovative immunomonitoring solutions to characterize dysfunctions of the immune system or to analyze the impact of immune-targeted therapies on the immune repertoire. In the Biotech & Pharma sector, the

ImmunTraCkeR® and Immun'Ig® solutions are used from the discovery stage through to clinical validation to measure the security and efficacy of molecules such as monoclonal antibodies (e.g. anti-CD20), interleukins (IL-2, IL-7 etc.), vaccines (prophylactic and therapeutic).

About Roche Diagnostics in France: Roche Diagnostics in France, whose headquarters are located in Meylan, near Grenoble, groups together the diagnostic activities of the Roche group in France. Roche Diagnostics France has 540 employees and in 2009 had a turnover of 342 million euro. French leader of in vitro diagnostics, Roche Diagnostic's activity centers around commercialization and distribution of innovative products and services for medical analysis laboratories (chemistry, immunology, molecular biology, delocalized biology) and laboratories involved in research into human health, in addition to supplying material for self-regulation of insulin pumps for diabetic patients. For further information, please see their website: www.rochediagnostics.fr

About Lyonbiopôle: Situated in the Rhône Alpes region, along the Lyon/Grenoble axis, in 2005 Lyonbiopôle was accredited as a world competitiveness cluster. It is a centre of excellence in diagnostics and vaccines and aims to better understand human and animal infectious diseases as well as cancer, with activities ranging from diagnosis and prevention through to treatment, while integrating novel routes of administration. This global approach aims to develop an inclusive "health shield" ranging from pathogen identification to protection of the populations at risk. Designed as a tool to interface and facilitate public/private partnerships, Lyonbiopôle styles itself as a catalyst for innovation, to reinforce the competitiveness of industries and the attractiveness of the region.