

PRESS RELEASE

JPK boosts its position in Molecular Analytics with complete takeover of nAmbition subsidiary

Berlin (Germany), 01/08/2008 - JPK Instruments AG, one of the leading developers of measuring and analytical instruments in the nanotechnology field, has increased its share in JPK subsidiary nAmbition GmbH in Dresden to 100 percent. Thus the Berlin-based company was able to extend its product portfolio and significantly boost its Molecular Analytics division.

Founded in 2004, nAmbition develops, products and markets analytical instruments based on nanotechnological methods. The company is thus positioned in the rapidly growing market for instruments and techniques used in nanobiotechnology and molecular biology. For example, ForceRobot[®], a product developed by the Dresden-based company and launched in 2007, is the first product of its kind that enables automated measurements on individual molecules, thus producing a protein fingerprint. Among other applications, this feature can be used to identify where active ingredients in drugs bind to the target molecule, as well as the strength of the resultant binding. For the first time it is now possible to gain targeted insights into the complex interactions of individual bio-molecules with active ingredients, thus opening up new paths in the field of pharmaceutical research. In addition to ForceRobot[®], which has already generated initial sales, further high-margin projects are also in development.

"The complete takeover of nAmbition now provides us with an opportunity to exploit major synergy potential. We will integrate nAmbition into our overall marketing and sales structure and further boost its sales and earnings contributions," comments Frank Pelzer, CEO of JPK Instruments AG, with regard to the acquisition of shares from investment company Dresden Fonds GmbH, which has actively accompanied the development of nAmbition as a financing partner since 2005.

The development expertise and products of nAmbition ideally complement JPK's portfolio and will significantly strengthen its Molecular Analytics division. Besides growth in sales and long-term improvement of earnings, the Berlin-based company also expects the acquisition to be helpful in winning new customer groups.

Following the complete takeover, JPK Group has two subsidiaries now: nAmbition GmbH and light power instruments GmbH. Not only do both companies possess a high degree of technological expertise, but both subsidiaries as well as the parent company own numerous patents which represent considerable barriers to competitors entering the market. "We are pleased with our complete integration into the JPK family," comments Dr. Jens Struckmeier, Technical Managing Director of nAmbition GmbH. "It will facilitate our cooperation and provide both sides with greater opportunities for exchanging their respective expertise and exploiting existing structures and synergy potential. With JPK Instruments AG, we will also have a parent company on our side which has yielded positive results since 2004. This underlines JPK's extraordinary position as a German company in the growing nanotechnology field."

About JPK Instruments AG:

JPK Instruments AG is a leading manufacturer of nano-analytic instruments – particularly atomic force microscope (AFM) systems – for research in life sciences and soft matter. One of Germany's most innovative nanotechnology companies, JPK was among the first to recognize the revolutionary opportunities this new field would open up for biomedical and pharmaceutical research. From the beginning, JPK has tailored its instrument platforms to meet the challenges in these areas.

JPK has developed powerful state-of-the-art solutions for high-resolution imaging, force measurement, nanomanipulation and nanolithography for life science applications. At the center of JPK's current portfolio are the BioAFM NanoWizard[®], the CellHesion[®] module (for studying cell adhesion and cell mechanics phenomena), and the TAO module (for use in optical spectroscopy). The secret of JPK's success lies in its high level of application expertise and its close interaction with leading scientists and research centers in nanotechnology.

Founded in 1999, the company is headquartered in Berlin and maintains a global network of distributors and support centers. In 2004 it launched nAmbition GmbH, a Dresden subsidiary specializing in the development of nano-instruments for application in molecular medicine and pharmaceutical research. In August 2006, this was followed by the 100% acquisition of lpi light power instruments, which is focussing on the development of optical nano-instrumentation for life science applications in research and industry.



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