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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Agreement between IBM and science factory aims to enhance drug discovery and development**

Combined system addresses data integration and management needs of the scientific community

**Cologne, Germany, Feb 18, 2003 - Today SCIENCE FACTORY GmbH, a leading European bioinformatics company, announced an agreement with IBM to create a combined data management solution that aims to enhance drug discovery and development. Through the agreement, the companies will collaborate to make IBM DiscoveryLink(TM) data integration technology compatible with the new workflow software überTOOL(TM) from science factory.**

DiscoveryLink enables scientists to perform complex queries against a broad range of different data types, quickly and efficiently. Recognizing the dynamic nature of life sciences data, DiscoveryLink leaves the original data and its underlying structure intact, while delivering results in a consolidated, consistent format.

science factory's überTOOL is a software system for the integration and analysis of molecular biological data. The new system provides scientists with over 200 types of bioinformatic methods and enables access to public biological databases and proprietary data including all überTOOL results. Using an integrated programming language, the customer can also easily extend the core functions. Interactive browsers for different biological data types and diverse expansion possibilities simplify the collaboration of the various users within the scalable client-server system in a unique way.

The combined technologies from both companies will enable scientists to work with a diverse range of data sources and file types including text, images, numeric files, and relational databases.

"The integration and management of an ever growing amount of disparate biological and chemical data is a huge issue for the scientific community" said Stavros Taraviras, ISV Manager Life Sciences EMEA. "Efficiently leveraging information to aid scientific discovery is crucial for all life sciences companies. Using the combined solution from IBM and science factory, scientists will be able to access and integrate more databases than previously possible. BLAST, SQL Server, Oracle, Excel spreadsheets, Sybase, Documentum, flat files and other data sources will all be made available to scientists using the system".

"The very best hardware and software are required by life science companies in a very competitive and fast-moving industry. The challenges that our customers are facing can best be met by teaming up with a market leader like IBM and pooling our competencies, services, and technologies", said Olav Zimmermann, Director of Customer Relations, science factory. "The combination of DiscoveryLink and überTOOL software will boost the ongoing in-house research efforts of pharmaceutical companies and put the power of information processing in the hands of their researchers".

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### **About science factory**

science factory is a bioinformatics company providing intelligent software solutions for modern genome and proteome research. Rapid advancement and automation in research is leading to a flood of information from various sources and of varying quality in many different formats. At the same time, new methods of analyzing this information are constantly being developed. science factory's products support research procedures intelligently and efficiently and thus ensure the customer a head start on the competition toward the decoding of various genomes as well as in the development of new medications and products. For more information visit the web site, <http://www.science-factory.com>.

### Note to the media:

Additional information about SCIENCE FACTORY GmbH as well as this press release in pdf or word formatted files can be found at <http://www.science-factory.com>.

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