

Media release – for immediate publishing

Basel Life Sciences Week 2010, the meeting place for pioneers from industry and academia

Basel is one of Europe's leading centers of the pharmaceutical and chemical industry, and it is the third biggest Life Science Cluster in Europe. From 20 to 24 September 2010, researchers from academia and industry will meet here at the annual Life Sciences Week. BioValley Basel, the Friedrich Miescher Institute, the Swiss Chemical Society, ILMAC and MipTec have decided to hold their events in parallel and in the same week at Basel Exhibition Centre. This gives the individual activities more weight and highlights Basel as an important location for industry and research.

Attendees of the Life Sciences Week will benefit from the concentration of expertise, enabling them to plan their time efficiently to make best use of their visit. As in the past years access to the biggest comparable event across Europe will be free of charge upon pre-registration on www.lifesciences.ch. This is still unique in the field of high-ranking international scientific conferences.

„The parallel lectures and events are a significant gain for local and participating companies, universities, for investors and not least for the public,” says Dr. Jost Harr, Chair of the Steering Committee of the BioValley Life Sciences Week. “We can highlight the innovative power and economic strength of our region in the field of Life Sciences internationally, and promote our location. Local companies get an excellent opportunity for networking. Moreover they can educate their staff locally without travel expenses.”

Rolf Rolli, CEO of Camag AG in Muttenz, Switzerland, and president of BioValley Basel is pleased that „the BioValley Basel association (www.biovalley.ch), the biggest networking organization in this field in Switzerland and the adjoining countries can once again sponsor Life Sciences communications and networking among representatives from science, economy, politics, and from the public.”

The **BioValley Life Sciences Week 2010** begins on Tuesday, September 21 with the **BioValley Science Day**. This is an all-day symposium featuring «Frontiers in Biomedical Research» to celebrate 40 years of cutting edge research at the Friedrich Miescher Institute in Basel.

The **BioValley Strategy Afternoon** (22 September) will bring together representatives from politics and industry to discuss the regional Life Sciences strategy. “The integration of all players including politicians is beneficial for all, local companies in pharma, biotech and start-ups, as well as for academia. It strengthens Basel's position in the national and international competition,” says Dr. Franz Saladin. He is member of the BioValley Basel board, and head of Basel business development.

In the morning of September 22 the University of Applied Sciences in Northwestern Switzerland will present highlights from its fields of research at the **BioValley Applied Sciences Day**.

The **BioValley Connect Day** on Thursday, September 23 is dedicated to the presentation of companies from BioValley and from other regions. Jean-Jacques Garaud, global head of Development at Roche will hold the joint BioValley-MipTec keynote lecture. The **BioValley Life Sciences Award** endowed with CHF 3,000, and the **'goldig's Lägerli' Award** (for more info see below) will also be presented on this day.

About BioValley Basel:

With around 350 members, BioValley Basel is the biggest networking organization in the Swiss Life Sciences sector, and in the adjoining countries of the Basel region. Since 1996 BioValley Basel aims to promote the Basel region as Life Sciences location, and actively supports networking among representatives from scientific, political and economic sectors.
www.biovalley.ch

About s'goldigi Lägerli:

The BioValley-Basel-Award was initiated 2002 to honor outstanding efforts for the promotion of Life Sciences. The Award is presented to individuals or teams who have or had an exceptional influence on science, biomedicine, economy and politics in the Basel region.

Former laureates include:

2009 Prof. Fritz Bühler, Basel University, one of the founders of the tri-national and Swiss BioValley, and founder of the BioValley Life Sciences Weeks,
2008 Dr. Alice Huxley, founder of Speedel Pharma,
2007 Dr. Thomas Meier, Santhera,
2006 founding team of Actelion
2005 Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Güntherodt, Basel University
2004 Prof. Dr. Gottfried Schatz, Basel University
2003 Dr. Jürg Meier, Novartis Venture Fund
2002 the late co-founder of BioValley, Dr. h.c. Georg H. Endress (Endress+Hauser).

Important to note:

Upon re-registration online (www.lifesciences.ch) access to all parallel events of the Basel Life sciences week 2010 is free of charge.

For more information

Please visit www.lifesciences.ch, or contact Dr. Jost Harr, +41 79 415 95 12 / jharr@tzwconsulting.ch or the congress secretariat at Congrex AG, Sibill Vogel, +41 61 686 77 65 / sibill.vogel@congrex.com