

Press Release

EuropaBio and EU Commission put white biotech in front of investment community

White biotech companies, in the industrial and manufacturing side of the biotech industry, present themselves to investors in the first roundtable of its kind

Brussels, 22 November 2004

EuropaBio and the EU Commission have for the first time created a roundtable where the white biotech community will have the opportunity to present to a group of pan-European investors. The roundtable will take place on 30 November as part of the 8th Biotech & Finance Forum in Barcelona, on the 29th of November (www.e-unlimited.com/bff).

Within the roundtable such leading European companies as Novozymes will present the rapid developments being seen in the white biotech sector. The objective is to inform private investors that Europe's emerging small and medium sized white biotech enterprises are an excellent opportunity for investment. A selected handful of top white biotech companies will be presenting.

The OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) report on biomass and agriculture, along with the EC, render white biotech as one of the most prominent sources for a sustainable energy market in Europe ("Biomass and Agriculture - sustainability, markets and policies"; OECD 06-09-2004). A recent McKinsey & Co. report shows that white biotech could be applied in the production of 10 to 20% of all chemicals sold by the year 2010. The generated added value in the chemistry industry alone is estimated to amount up to EUR 11 to 22 billion per annum by 2010.

"There are so many new possibilities to apply this technology, from setting new environmental standards for the manufacturing of textiles, leathers and paper to completely new products like biodegradable plastics," says Steen Riisgaard, Chairman of EuropaBio's Industrial Biotech Council and Vice Chairman of EuropaBio – the EU association of bioindustries. EuropaBio has produced the following report on White biotech: White Biotechnology – gateway to a more sustainable future (www.europabio.org/documents/100403/Innenseiten_final_screen.pdf).

Notes to editors:

White Biotech uses enhanced micro-organisms to produce a variety of products such as detergents, bio-fuels, bio-plastics and vitamins. Most of these processes result in considerable savings on the use of energy, chemicals and a reduction of waste generated compared to traditional methods. Although the white biotech sector is emerging, it is far

from new. Its underlying processes have been used by mankind for thousands of years, for example in the production of wine, cheese, and bread.

The Biotech & Finance Forum is organised by Europe Unlimited in association with EuropaBio. This pan-European initiative is designed specifically to support biotech innovation and business in Europe and will take place on the 29th November in Barcelona. It focuses on selecting the most innovative and promising private biotech, life sciences and med-tech companies, and presenting them to an extensive audience of Europe's leading life sciences and biotech investors and senior executives from top pharmaceutical firms. The BFF is a must-attend event for anyone with a stake in biotech innovation and business in Europe.

www.e-unlimited.com/bff

About EuropaBio

EuropaBio, the European Association for Bio-industries, has 33 corporate members operating worldwide and 24 national biotechnology associations representing some 1200 small and medium sized enterprises involved in research and development, testing, manufacturing and distribution of biotechnology products.

www.europabio.org

About Europe Unlimited

Europe Unlimited profiles Europe's best technology companies through research, events and consulting. Established in 1998, Europe Unlimited has assembled a vast database of Europe's technology and investment contacts, and acquired a reputation for staging excellent investment and networking forums across Europe.

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For more information, contact

Adam RH Michael, Placenta Publicity Ltd. Tel: +44 1223 574187 Mobile: +44 777 588 1813 adam@placenta-publicity.com

Ronan L'Heveder, Project Manager Europe Unlimited Tel: +32 2 626 01 02, ronan@e-unlimited.com

Adeline Farrelly, EuropaBio, Tel: +32 2 735 0313 Direct: +32 2 739 1174
Mobile: +32 475 93 17 24 Email: a.farrelly@europabio.org