

## Entrepreneurial ID «venture leaders» 2008

### Marc Gitzinger

E-Mail: marc.gitzinger@bioversys.com, Tel: +41 79 822 5716



## BioVersys

Innovative Antibacterial Drugs

Our first antibacterial lead compound is in preclinical development and backed by an expanding discovery pipeline.

*Industry:* Pharmaceuticals

### *The venture leader*

After Marc finalized his studies in Biotechnology at the University of Freiburg (Germany) and the University of Queensland (Australia), he joined McKinsey&Company as an Associate Intern in their health care practice. During this time he received his first insights into the business side of the pharmaceutical industry. In 2005 he chose to pursue his PhD at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich with Prof. Martin Fussenegger. His research projects include regulated trans-kingdom protein production and identification of novel small molecules that interfere with specific bacterial target proteins. His work resulted in two scientific publications. Over the past 7 years Marc has participated in several business courses and has gained detailed knowledge on Intellectual Property rights during two internships with European Patent Attorneys.

Today, Marc is co-founder and CEO of the ETH spin-off company BioVersys, which is composed of a skilled team of experts in the fields of infection biology, medicinal chemistry and drug screening technologies.

### *The Company*

BioVersys is discovering and developing novel antibacterial drugs using its expertise in antibacterial compound detection and screening technologies that have evolved, in-house, over the past six years. To date BioVersys is applying its highly integrated discovery platform in two successful campaigns. The first campaign is focused on anti-tuberculosis drugs and has already yielded a promising lead compound, which is currently in the preclinical phase. A patent application for this compound has been filed. The second campaign is focused on discovering new macrolide antibiotics and has yielded a compound that is effective against several multi-drug resistant bacteria strains.

In the future BioVersys will expand its in-house discovery pipeline by screening its proprietary natural compound library, of over 100.000 compounds, on diverse bacterial target proteins. BioVersys will take the resulting lead structures from these campaigns through to clinical phase IIa then out-license them.

Within the first two years the company will grow to 16 FTE's to maximise throughput through the discovery pipeline. BioVersys will enter the global antibacterial market that currently comprises a volume of \$34bn annually. Our first product, the anti-tuberculosis compound, will be ready for out-licensing by 2013.

By mid-2008 the three founding members will launch the company as BioVersys AG. We are interested in fruitful partnerships to complement our expertise in drug development. Additionally we are looking for investors and intend to have our first financing round in 2008 in order to fully exploit our discovery platform and finalize the preclinical phase of our first compounds.