

Entrepreneurial ID «venture leaders» 2009



Name: Philipp Antoni

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Project/ Company name: Biognosys AG

Short description: Biognosys is a biomarker discovery company with a proprietary targeted proteomics platform (MRM).

Web site: www.biognosys.ch

Industry: Biotechnology



The venture leader

Becoming an entrepreneur that can implement ones belief into a project was a motivation throughout my education. Following this motivation, I studied chemistry and economics as tools to understand new technological and scientific approaches, and to combine it to an economic value. I was fascinated to start-up a biotech company with a great scientific team that is developing a new mass spectrometric technology for protein quantification in tissue. We now want to use that technology to verify and validate biomarkers which are a crucial cornerstone in developing personalized medicine.

The Company

BiognoSYS AG is a **biomarker discovery** company with a proprietary **targeted proteomics platform** (MRM) that enables faster biomarker discovery and validation with higher success rates compared to state of the art approaches. The technology is unprecedented in speed of development, measurement accuracy, and number of parallel candidate marker measurements that can be screened at one time. Biomarkers will play a pivotal role in tomorrow's more **personalized medicine** and are crucial for the drug development process, improvement of clinical trials, diagnosis, prognosis, and for assignment of patient specific treatment schemas.

Technology: Biognosys seeks to establish its MRM technology commercially which enables us to correlate peptide fragments found to proteins and their concentrations in the measured human probe. Biognosys is capable of the parallel development of large numbers of potential biomarkers, alleviating several bottlenecks of the conventional biomarker development chain. Our technology provides a several fold increase in throughput in the later stages of the biomarker development process resulting in a dramatic increase in success rate

Product and Market: Biognosys will first focus on breast cancer stratification and prognostic biomarkers which will provide valuable information towards personalized medicine. Furthermore, we will offer contract research service for quantification of proteins in human blood, serum or tissue for pharma companies. It is expected that biomarkers will be used as a widespread tool in modern personalized medicine facilitating disease diagnosis and classification, to predict clinical outcome, to assign personalized treatment schemas and to as an aid in discovering new drugs.

Status: Biognosys AG was founded as a spin-off company of the ETH Zurich in September 2008 by 4 founders in Zurich. We have our laboratory at the ETH Hönggerberg, one employee (20%) and are currently in negotiations with two pharma companies for first service contracts. We are setting up several collaborations with tissue banks within Scandinavia and Switzerland to have access to high standard tissue, blood and urine.

Financing: Biognosys AG is planning financing rounds within the next 2 years. Up to then, the nominal capital, private financing, first revenues coming from contract research and first product launches are used as seed capital and to set up our laboratory and pay for our employees.



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