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2014 Hugo Junkers Innovation Award

**IDT Biologika optimizes live vaccine production**

*Dessau-Rosslau, Germany, 15 December 2014.* **IDT Biologika is sharing the 2014 Hugo Junkers Innovation Award in the Applied Research category with its innovative production process for a recombinant Ebola vaccine. The ten-person team under Dr. Andreas Neubert, Director of the IDT Biologika Vaccines Business Unit, has developed a process for producing live vaccines significantly faster and in large volumes.**

**Due to its high level of purity, the vaccine produced using the new process also minimizes undesirable side effects such as allergic or shock reactions. The vaccine has already been made available for clinical trials. Precise dosage, efficacy and possible side effects are currently being investigated in human clinical trials, in order to authorize the vaccine for use.**

The virus vaccine itself was produced in Canada with IDT participation using a biomolecular process. "Using genetic technology, today we can do away with tedious cultivation, and instead remove the harmful gene sequences from a virus vaccine and extract carrier particles containing the desired antigens," explains Dr. Andreas Neubert, head of IDT Biologika's global vaccine business. The weakened, genetically modified virus vaccine is then bred in cell cultures.

This requires nourishment. Instead of feeding the cells with animal serums as in conventional processes, the scientists utilize chemically defined nutrient solutions. They use exclusively disposable materials, and achieve a yield of active agent without losses using a specially developed purification procedure with comparably little technical input. The share of

unwanted corollary materials is reduced to well below the legally required minimum.

“Large volumes of emergency vaccine can be prepared in a short time period using our process,” emphasizes Dr. Andreas Neubert. Preventive vaccination using this Ebola vaccine can be administered 14 days before deployment to an Ebola-infected region, but the vaccine could protect up to 48 hours after initial contact with the virus, says Dr. Neubert. The company wishes to launch production itself and manufacture live vaccines upon customer order.

### **About IDT Biologika**

IDT Biologika is an innovative, privately-held company with more than 90 years of experience researching, developing, manufacturing and marketing biologics for the global protection of human and animal health. Since it was established in 1921, IDT Biologika has developed into one of the world’s leading pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies with focus on three core areas – animal health, vaccines, and pharmaceuticals. Vaccines and pharmaceuticals are biotechnologically produced according to the highest quality standards for the national and international markets.

The company’s locations in Germany are the BioPharmaPark in Dessau-Rosslau and in Greifswald – district Riems. In the USA, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Spain, IDT operates distribution branches whose activities are focused primarily on the animal health business segment.

In the 2013 financial year, IDT Biologika achieved sales of approximately €151 million with its animal health, vaccines, and pharmaceutical business segments and its quality control division. IDT Biologika currently has some 1,200 employees.

IDT Biologika is a company of the Klocke Holding Group. The Klocke Holding Group companies specialize in contract manufacturing and packaging of pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and cosmetic products. With more than 1,800 employees at six locations in Europe and the USA, the traditionally family-owned Klocke Group offers comprehensive services for production and packaging of pharmaceutical products.

### **Contact**

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