

Key industry professionals to join peptide and oligonucleotide teams at Solvay's Peptisyntha and Girindus businesses

PEPTISYNTHA, a service provider to the pharmaceutical industry and a leading manufacturer of therapeutic peptides, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Mimoun Ayoub. Dr. Ayoub will assume the position of VP Strategic Development, as of January 1st, 2010. M. Ayoub joins PEPTISYNTHA with an impressive track record in the peptides industry at ISOCHEM, GENZYME and most recently SENN Chemicals where he was Group CEO.

The arrival of Dr. Ayoub at PEPTISYNTHA follows other moves at GIRINDUS, the therapeutic oligonucleotides manufacturer where Solvay has a majority stake. Earlier, GIRINDUS announced the appointment of Dr. Marc Lemaitre as new CEO of GIRINDUS AMERICA Inc.. Dr. Lemaitre joins GIRINDUS after tenures at EUROGENTEC and GLEN RESEARCH.

"Dr. Lemaitre and Dr. Ayoub are key industry professionals which - together with Dr. Michael McLean, exclusive oligonucleotides consultant to GIRINDUS - lift the public profile and complement the strong home-bred management teams at GIRINDUS and PEPTISYNTHA, respectively", said Dr. Ern Edmonds, General Manager of SOLVAY's SBU overseeing these businesses. "Our peptide and oligonucleotide businesses represent sound development opportunities in their own right and provide the right competences, contacts and credentials from which to extend into adjacent ventures in newly emerging bioscience fields", concluded Dr. Edmonds.

Peptisyntha SA and Peptisyntha Inc., fully owned subsidiaries of the Chemicals division of the Solvay Group, develops, manufactures and supplies peptides used as active ingredients in the pharmaceutical and diagnostics industries. The company operates from locations in Brussels, Belgium and Torrance, California. Details are available at www.peptisyntha.com.

Girindus AG, an independent group of companies, listed on the Frankfurt stock exchange, in which Solvay has a 76 % shareholding, develops, manufactures and supplies oligonucleotides used as active ingredients in the pharmaceutical and diagnostics industries. The company operates from locations in Bensberg, Germany and Cincinnati, Ohio. Details are available at www.girindus.com.

SOLVAY is an international chemical and pharmaceutical Group with headquarters in Brussels. It employs more than 29,000 people in 50 countries. In 2008, its consolidated sales amounted to EUR 9.5 billion, generated by its three sectors of activity: Chemicals, Plastics and Pharmaceuticals. Solvay is listed on the NYSE Euronext stock exchange in Brussels (NYSE Euronext: SOLB.BE - Bloomberg: SOLB.BB - Reuters: SOLBt.BR). Details are available at www.solvay.com.