



S*BIO's new CEO set to deepen and broaden product pipeline

16 March 2005 - S*BIO Pte Ltd, Singapore's first fully-integrated, multi-disciplinary drug discovery company, has appointed Dr Jan-Anders Karlsson as its new Chief Executive Officer, from January 2005. Dr Karlsson was previously an Executive Vice President of Bayer Pharma in Germany, and has some 25 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry. He has a strong track record of successes in the drug discovery and development area. (See below for biodata of Dr Karlsson)

"Having worked within the U.S., across Europe and in Japan, I now look forward to working in Singapore, which is fast becoming the biomedical hub of Asia. S*BIO is well positioned to take an active role in further building up Singapore's biomedical capabilities, as we develop new therapeutics for unmet medical needs," said Dr Karlsson.

S*BIO's primary focus is in the discovery and development of small molecule anti-cancer drugs. The company has a comprehensive discovery platform and is able to rapidly identify 'best-in-class' development candidates. Having been at the company for a few months, Dr Karlsson's first priority is to build up S*BIO's capabilities and bring novel compounds into the clinic. This will demonstrate the effectiveness and safety of S*BIO's drugs.

"I aim to develop S*BIO into a premier biopharmaceutical company that is discovering and developing novel, highly efficacious medicines for patients with select and well-defined tumour types," said Dr Karlsson. "We will focus on deepening and broadening our pipeline, by working in partnership with other pharmaceutical and biotech companies."

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About S*BIO

S*BIO is Singapore's first and only fully integrated small molecule drug discovery company, formed through a partnership between the Singapore Economic Development Board Investments (EDBI) and Chiron Corporation. Under a technology license agreement, S*BIO leveraged on Chiron's small molecule drug discovery platform, gene expression database, cancer-focused target databases and chemical compound libraries. S*BIO currently occupies a state-of-the-art 22,000 sq ft facility at the Singapore Science Park II.

S*BIO's R&D capabilities encompass the entire drug discovery process, from target validation, through to early pre-clinical development. S*BIO's international team of researchers, with strong industry backgrounds, are highly experienced in the areas of functional genomics, protein biochemistry, assay development, high throughput screening, combinatorial and medicinal chemistry, computational chemistry, lead optimization biology, pharmacology, in vitro ADMET characterization and drug discovery informatics.

For more information, please visit www.sbio.com

About Dr Jan-Anders Karlsson

Dr Jan-Anders Karlsson has extensive experience in the pharmaceutical industry, with many proven successes in the drug discovery area. He has created innovative balanced and risk adjusted drug discovery and development pipelines, in multiple therapeutic categories. He has also been responsible for building up research organisations internationally, implementing global science and technology platforms, initiating numerous academic and industrial collaborations, and creating entrepreneurial drug discovery cultures. Dr Karlsson has published and presented research papers in a number of well-recognised journals and at international conferences.

Dr Karlsson combines his exceptional technical knowledge with his strong business acumen. His business expertise includes establishing strategic partnerships, raising venture capital and licensing compounds.

Prior to joining S*BIO, Dr Karlsson was the Executive Vice President, Global Research of Bayer Pharma, where he was a member of the Executive Management Committee, with responsibility for the company's global drug discovery organisation.

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