

## **Ascenion is Exclusive Commercialization Partner for a Further Eight Life-Science Institutes**

May 23, 2006, Munich – Ascenion GmbH has forged exclusive partnerships with eight research institutes in the Leibniz Association’s life-sciences section. Ascenion will provide comprehensive support in the patenting and commercialization of the institutes’ research results, including scouting, creation and management of stable-value patent portfolios, negotiation of licensing agreements, and start-up coaching.

Ascenion now supports 13 life-science institutes in the Helmholtz and Leibniz Associations with around 5,250 employees and total budget of approx. 440 million euros per annum.

The new partner institutes are:

- BNI, Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg
- DIfE, German Institute of Human Nutrition, Potsdam-Rehbrücke
- FMP, Leibniz Institute for Molecular Pharmacology, Berlin
- FLI, Leibniz Institute for Age Research – Fritz Lipmann Institute, Jena
- FZB, Research Center Borstel - Leibniz-Center for Medicine and Biosciences, Borstel
- HKI, Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology - Hans-Knoell-Institute, Jena
- HPI, Heinrich Pette Institute for Experimental Virology and Immunology, Hamburg
- IPK, Leibniz Institute for Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research, Gatersleben

The patenting and commercialization activities of these institutes will be supported by funds from the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) of around 1.5 million euros over a three-year period. The proceeds from the commercialization of research results flow to the research institutes.

“The supply of innovative products and technologies will increase considerably as a result of these new collaborations. This will raise the profile and visibility of Ascenion and its partners in the Leibniz and Helmholtz Associations for industrial partners”, commented Dr. Christian Stein, Ascenion’s CEO.

Ascenion currently markets over 500 patent families in the life-science area, as well as numerous research materials such as antibodies and animal models.

“Our collaboration with Ascenion will allow us to market our patents and technologies even more efficiently”, commented Prof. Walter Rosenthal, speaker for the Leibniz Association’s life-sciences section. “In addition, the partnership between Ascenion and a total of 13 life-science institutes from the Helmholtz and Leibniz Associations provides the opportunity to establish unified professional standards for technology transfer in this area, to the benefit of all concerned.”

In order to ensure an efficient service for its new partners, Ascenion will open an office in Hamburg this August. Ascenion already has offices in Munich, Berlin, Braunschweig and Neuherberg.

#### **Contact**

Dr Peter Ruile, COO

T: +49 (0)89 318814-14, E: ruile@ascenion.de

Ascenion GmbH, Herzogstr. 64, 80803 Munich, Germany

#### **Background Information**

##### **Ascenion GmbH**

Ascenion is a patent management agency focused on the life sciences. Ascenion supports and advises public research institutions with regard to the protection and exploitation of their intellectual property (patents, know-how, materials), and initiates and mediates license agreements between research institutions and industry. Among Ascenion's particular strengths are start-up coaching and active investment management. Ascenion is a 100% subsidiary of the Life-Science Foundation for the Promotion of Science and Research and the exclusive commercialization partner for the 13 research institutes in the Helmholtz and Leibniz Associations. Ascenion's headquarters are in Munich, with further offices in Berlin, Braunschweig, Neuherberg, and, from August 2006, in Hamburg. Further information at [www.ascenion.de](http://www.ascenion.de)