



## **Biotechnology company Collectis S.A. announces the inception of two subsidiaries: Collectis BioResearch to develop and market research kits and Collectis Genome Surgery to develop therapeutics**

**Biocitech, June 30, 2008** – Collectis S.A. (Alternext: ALCLS), a leading company in genome engineering, developing meganucleases for healthcare, research and industrial markets, announces the inception of two fully owned subsidiaries, Collectis BioResearch and Collectis Genome Surgery.

The goal of Collectis BioResearch is to develop and market research kits which offer turnkey rational genome engineering solutions to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry in academic research worldwide. The lead product of this division is in an advanced validation phase, and the company has more than ten products in the pipeline.

*“Collectis BioResearch is pursuing two strategic objectives: rapid profitability and the broadest possible diffusion of Collectis' rational genome engineering technology,”* stated Marc Le Bozec, CFO of Collectis and CEO of Collectis BioResearch. He added, *“In order to achieve these objectives, corporate growth at Collectis BioResearch will be fueled by one or more distribution agreements”*.

Collectis Genome Surgery's mission is to develop therapeutics that uses meganucleases or meganuclease recombination systems (MRS) as their active component. The company's target indications are genetic diseases and infectious diseases resulting from infections with DNA viruses (such as the hepatitis B or herpes viruses), or those in which the genome can be turned into a DNA form integrated in chromosomes resulting in persistence of the infectious phase in patients (such as AIDS).

*“We have launched Collectis Genome Surgery at the moment our therapeutics reached the preclinical stage,”* commented Frédéric Pâques, CSO of Collectis and CEO of Collectis Genome Surgery. He added, *“The therapeutic approach, based on genome surgery, aims to attack the cause of diseases and not to treat their symptoms. The objective of this subsidiary is to give patients innovative solutions for diseases which currently have unmet medical needs.”*

Both simplified private stock corporations are wholly owned by Collectis S.A. and do most of their business on the Biocitech life science park in Romainville, just in the outskirts of Paris - France.

### **About Collectis**

Collectis SA ([www.collectis.com](http://www.collectis.com)) is a world-leading company in genome engineering and genome surgery. The company is focused on developing and producing meganucleases for *in vivo* genome surgery. Collectis' products induce site-directed, double-strand DNA breaks in living cells and can be used in a wide range of biotechnological and therapeutic applications.



### **A strong patent portfolio**

Collectis holds a 148-strong patent and patent application portfolio, providing the company with a concrete position in the field of homologous recombination (3 US patents issued) and meganucleases and uses thereof (18 US patents issued), both naturally-occurring and with engineered specificity. A significant part of this portfolio has been exclusively licensed by Institut Pasteur, which spun off the company in 2000. Institut Pasteur has pioneered the field of homologous recombination. One major scientific breakthrough won the Nobel Prize in 2007. Similarly, the team of researchers that discovered meganucleases and published benchmark papers on reference meganuclease (I-SceI) came from the Institut Pasteur. These teams' pioneering spirit led to very early patents being filed (from the 1980s onwards) which gives Collectis a sound position as its exclusive licensee.

### **A strong scientific background**

Research teams involved in the discovery of meganucleases at Institut Pasteur and Collectis have published tens of benchmark articles in prestigious peer-review journals such as *Cell*, *Nature*, *Science*, *PNAS*, *JBC* and *JMB*. In 2007 alone, Collectis published 5 important scientific papers in peer-review journals, with a further 2 papers since the beginning of 2008.

### **A technology that delivers**

Collectis currently holds a portfolio of 18 meganucleases at different stages of development, with modified specificity derived from the I-Crel meganuclease. These have applications in:

- Health and therapeutics – major indications are severe inborn genetic diseases, DNA virus infections, transplantation and cancer
- Research reactants – the major indication is research kit development for pharmacogenomic studies in general and drug screening in particular
- Agricultural biotechnology – the major targets are crop improvement, biofuels and biofibers.
- Biomanufacturing – the major indications are cell line and recombinant protein improvement.

### **A partner-oriented strategy**

The company has formed 48 industrial partnerships with pharmaceutical companies (Astra-Zeneca, GSK, Shire), agricultural biotechnology groups (Limagrain, Bayer, BASF, DuPont-Pioneer HiBred) and biotech firms (Genentech, Trans Genic, Lexicon). Collectis contributes to over 20 academic partnerships, including those with the Institut Gustave Roussy cancer research centre, the Necker Hospital (France), Children's Hospital Boston and the Harvard Gene Therapy Initiative (USA).

### **Financing**

The company raised over €24m in a successful IPO on NYSE-Euronext Alternext (in February 2007), in order to increase its annual meganuclease production capacity. To date, the company has raised over €40m in both private and public rounds of financing. Collectis is listed on the NYSE-Euronext Alternext market (ticker code: ALCLS). For more information on Collectis, visit our website: [www.collectis.com](http://www.collectis.com).

### **Practical details:**

ISIN Code: FR0010425595

Ticker code: ALCLS

### **Collectis' Forward-Looking Statements**

This communication expressly or implicitly contains certain forward-looking statements concerning Collectis SA and its business. Such statements involve certain known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which could cause the actual results, financial condition, performance or achievements of Collectis SA to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Collectis SA is providing this communication as of this date and does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements contained herein as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

For a discussion of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results, financial condition, performance or achievements of Collectis SA to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements please refer to the Risk Factors (Facteurs de Risque) section of the prospectus approved by the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers ("AMF") on January 22, 2007 under visa number 07-023, available on the websites of the AMF (<http://www.amf-france.org>) and Collectis (<http://www.collectis.com>).

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