

Scale-up Systems opens office in India

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Scale-up Systems, the leading provider of process development software to the pharmaceutical industry, established Scale-up Systems India, a Mumbai-based subsidiary that will support its growing number of customers in India.

Scale-up Systems India will be building on business relationships developed over the past three years with leading Indian pharmaceutical and speciality chemicals companies.

Following the success of the first Indian DynoChem User Meeting in April 2011, a dedicated local presence has become necessary to provide rollout support and closer communication with Indian managers and users.

An initial team in the Mumbai office will be led by Mr Mahendra Pandit on the business side and Dr Sanket Salgaonkar for training and technical support. Scale-up Systems India's Managing Director Dr Steve Hearn said, "For us, the India market represents an exciting combination of increased investment and presence of big pharma, growing indigenous companies that are hungry to succeed and universities that are producing extremely capable young chemists and engineers. These factors bode well for those companies whose management embrace the reality that strong process understanding is critical to meet today's regulatory and business requirements."

Agilent signs contract with Amrita varsity

Agilent Technologies has signed a research sponsoring agreement with Amrita University for one year. Under the agreement, Agilent will lend equipment worth \$250,000 and consumables valued at \$10,000 to aid research at Amrita University. Besides that the company will also provide extensive service and support during the contract period. In exchange, Amrita University will let Agilent use the lab facility as a demo and training centre for customers. Additionally, Amrita University has agreed to

collaborate with Agilent's Life Sciences Center in Bangalore, India, by sharing samples and by providing expert support for developing application solutions and joint publications.

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham or Amrita University is a multi-campus, NAAC A grade accredited, research and teaching university in India. The university is spread across eight acre campuses in three states of South India — at Amritapuri and Kochi in Kerala, Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and at Bangalore and Mysore in Karnataka. The focus of the planned projects is the analysis of biotechnologically relevant proteins from natural products. The lab at the Kollam, Kerala branch of Amrita, is the result of expansion of an existing biotech facility on the campus.

Agilent's collaboration with Amrita University is part of its charter to deepen its engagement with local Indian institutes and universities. "We want to aid in the development of science education and a scientific temperament in the country. Additionally, we expect the link between Amrita and our Life Sciences Centre in Bangalore to act as an incubator for application development," said Mr Parmeet S Ahuja, president and country general manager, Agilent Technologies India.

Quintiles recognized as tech innovator

Quintiles, a pharmaceutical services company offering clinical, commercial, consulting and capital services, was named fourth in the Information Week 500 Technology Innovators rankings for its Quintiles Infosario platform in an awards ceremony at the St Regis Monarch Beach Resort in California, US. The company was also recognized as the industry leader in the biotech and pharmaceutical category.

Quintiles Infosario is an end-to-end business platform that empowers their biopharma customers to manage data, a strategic asset that enables fast and smart decision making, that accelerates drug development and significantly reduces operating costs. It was introduced in June 2011.

Users benefit from technology and processes that not only reduce administrative burden, but also improve the quality of data for better outcomes. Infosario aims to turn harmonized data into insights and insights into outcomes.

With nearly three decades of drug development and commercialization experience, Quintiles was recognized for creating a compelling proposition to support the biopharma industry, building a bridge to the future where data is foundational.

This, combined with Quintiles' capabilities, fully integrated systems and deep industry expertise, makes it truly transformational.

InformationWeek identifies and honors the nation's most innovative users of information technology with its annual 500 listing, and also tracks the technology, strategies, investments and administrative practices of America's best-known companies.
