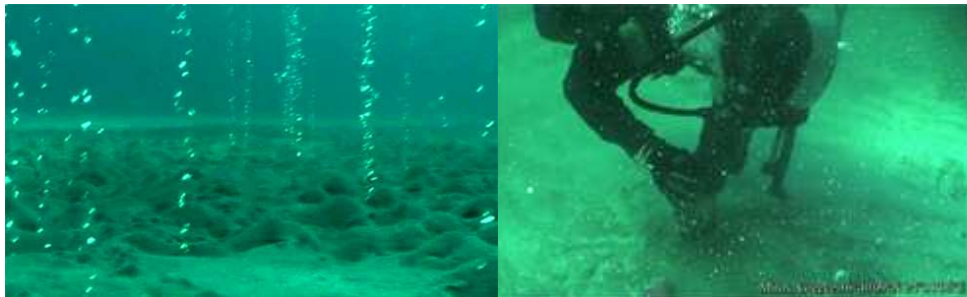


PRESS RELEASE

New Enzymes from the deep Mediterranean evocatal develops new biocatalysts from extreme marine environments



Sampling from submarine hydrothermal vents close to Milos-Island, Greece.

© MAMBA-Project

Duesseldorf and Bangor, 26. April, 2011 - evocatal GmbH is industry partner in the international project “Marine Metagenomics for New Biotechnological Applications” (MAMBA). Within the framework of this program, the company is contributing expertise and proprietary technologies for the identification of as yet undiscovered enzymes from nature and their production using bacterial host organisms. These biocatalysts are then made available for industrial applications in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries, thereby aiding experts in their efforts to design more sustainable and effective production processes.

The scientists investigate biological diversity in marine environments and make it accessible for technological innovation. evocatal’s chances of discovering new, highly-specialized enzyme activities are increased by the range of samples which will be taken from a variety of extreme environments. MAMBA’s focus is on unique ecosystems in the Mediterranean’s bathyal and abyssal zones, habitats that are marked by high salinity, extreme temperatures and pH-values, intense pressure and exceptional mineral composition, respectively.

“It’s astonishing that microbes have been able to adapt to conditions in such hostile environments,” says evocatal CSO Dr. Christian Leggewie. “Discovering this diversity and using it for biotechnological purposes is not only fascinating, but exceedingly innovative as well.”

“Scientific relevance – and a high-caliber consortium with internationally recognized experts” comments Prof. Peter N. Golyshin, University Bangor, Wales UK. “Why evocatal? evocatal can use and market the identified enzymes. We really



appreciate their ample experience and a unique position on the market. Ultimately, what we all want is to make use of the riches from yet undiscovered microbial enzymatic diversity”.

The MAMBA Project brings together a total of eleven partners from Wales (UK), Messina (Italy), Madrid (Spain), Banyuls, Bretagne, Boulogne (all in France), Toronto (Canada), Bremen and Düsseldorf (both in Germany). The research performed by the participating universities is led and coordinated by Professor Peter N. Golyshin from Bangor University in Wales (UK).

The MAMBA project is financed by the European Commission’s FP7 Research Programme, and runs for four years, until mid-2013.

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About evocatal GmbH

Evocatal GmbH develops and markets tailored enzymes for biotechnological applications in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries. The company’s range of proprietary biocatalysts is growing constantly as it is optimized for the production of chiral fine chemicals. Evocatal’s portfolio is complemented by contract research capabilities, providing a comprehensive spectrum of services for the white (industrial) biotech sector. Since the company was founded in 2006, evocatal has been involved in international research projects, which has given the company access to the latest developments in the field of molecular engineering. Technologies developed by evocatal technologies facilitate and stand for sustainable chemistry.

For more information, visit www.evocatal.com

About MAMBA Project:

MAMBA stands for “**M**arine **M**etagenomics for **N**ew **B**iotechnological **A**pplications”, a collaborative project to mine for and use of new microbial activities, in particular for targeted production of fine chemicals, antioxidants and anti-cancer drugs. This Project builds on the previous efforts of European Framework Programs and National research initiatives for exploiting the catalytic activities of marine microorganisms and microbial communities and to gain new knowledge on the mechanisms of survival of living organisms in extreme environments.

For more information, visit <http://mamba.bangor.ac.uk>

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