



immatics biotechnologies GmbH, a Germany-based immunotherapy company from Tuebingen, is named one of Europe's best 100 privately owned companies and successfully raises additional €5.8 million (US \$ 7.2 million)

/ immatics receives recognition for progress in cancer immunotherapy /

(Tuebingen, April 15th, 2005) – immatics biotechnologies GmbH, a biopharmaceutical company founded in September 2000 and specialising in the development of highly specific medications based on tumour-associated peptides, was chosen by US media company "Red Herring" as one of the 100 best privately owned companies in Europe. Every year, Red Herring names the best 100 companies that are making a name for themselves with innovative technologies and business models. This year, the panel of judges looked at more than 600 promising young companies from Europe and Israel. Of the best 100 for 2005, eight companies are from Germany, immatics being the only German business from the life sciences sector. The judges were particularly impressed by the innovative technology driving forward the rapid clinical development of diverse drug candidates for treating various cancers and the characterisation of additional tumour antigens relevant for immunotherapy. The awards ceremony took place on Tuesday April 12th 2005 as part of a three-day technology conference in London.

Also proud of the company's achievement is the investor consortium comprising Vinci Capital-Renaissance PME as the new investor, Wellington Partners, 3i Group, Grazia Equity, Landeskreditbank Baden-Württemberg, SEED, Merifin Capital and EMBL ventures, which recently invested an additional Euro 5.8 million in the company. Together with the € 8.3 million raised in the first round in 2004, immatics has meanwhile collected more than € 14 million (US \$ 18 million). "We are pleased to have attracted additional funds of this size, which emphasises the growing importance of peptides as a novel class of cancer drug candidates for decision makers in the industry," immatics CFO Joerg Scheidle commented. "With the closing of this new financing round, immatics belongs to the best financed life science start-ups in Europe," adds Rainer Strohmenger of Wellington Partners.

"Supported by the latest, successful financing round and a strong investor base, the company will intensify the clinical development of its growing portfolio of highly innovative drug candidates for cancer immunotherapy, as well as the cooperation with industrial partners," says Chairman of the Board Thomas Widmann.



In addition to the existing consortium, now also the Swiss venture capital company Vinci Capital-Renaissance PME is backing the company. One year ago, immatics had 13 highly qualified employees, who developed new drug candidates for treating various cancers. Today, the company has a workforce of more than 25 employees and plans to further raise this number significantly in the coming two years. "immatics has made very impressive progress over the last 18 months, reflecting the high quality of the research and the management team. We have been closely following the development of the company and are very pleased to participate in the future development of immatics." says Christian Waldvogel of Vinci Capital-Renaissance PME.

immatics is about to initiate the clinical development of its lead product candidate for the treatment of renal cell carcinoma, a disease which affects more than 100,000 people in industrial nations annually. Furthermore, the pipeline of immatics includes drug candidates for additional oncology indications, which are at pre-clinical stages of development.

About immatics biotechnologies GmbH:

Founded in 2000, immatics biotechnologies GmbH is an independent biopharmaceutical company based in Tübingen, Germany. immatics uses proprietary technologies to identify and validate new drugs for treating various cancers. The drugs comprise short peptides to stimulate the patient's own immune system cells to fight against tumours. In addition to the rapid clinical development of treatments for renal cell cancer, immatics also focuses on the characterisation of additional immunotherapy-relevant tumour antigens for particularly common cancers.

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immatics biotechnologies GmbH: Dr. Niels Emmerich, Paul-Ehrlich-Straße 15, D-72076 Tuebingen, +49 (0)7071-565125-0, emmerich@immatics.com