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MVM LIFE SCIENCE PARTNERS LLP

GLAXOSMITHKLINE TO ACQUIRE DOMANTIS LTD FOR \$454 MILLION

**GSK will expand its Biopharmaceuticals Portfolio
with Acquisition of Domantis's Pioneering Single Domain
Antibody Technology**

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GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK) today announced that it has entered into an agreement to acquire Domantis Ltd, a leader in developing the next generation of antibody therapies for US\$454 million in cash. Domantis, a privately owned company, was started in 2000 by the Medical Research Council and MVM Ltd. The price is one of the highest ever paid for a private biotechnology company. It is easily the most significant deal ever for a private European biotechnology company.

The acquisition agreement is subject to clearance under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act and is expected to complete in January 2007.

Dr. Stephen Reeders, MVM managing partner and Domantis board member said: "We recognised that Sir Greg Winter and Dr Ian Tomlinson were the worldwide leaders in antibody engineering. We worked with the MRC to define a package of powerful intellectual property with which to found the company and provided seed capital. Shortly after that, Ian Tomlinson left MRC's prestigious Laboratory of Molecular Biology to become the company's Chief Scientific Officer. We were also very fortunate in finding Bob Connelly to be CEO. He and Ian have done an outstanding job in building technology and commercial value in the company."

"Domantis has pioneered the extension of antibody therapies to potentially far wider applications than has been possible with conventional monoclonal antibodies," said Mike Owen, Senior Vice President, Biopharmaceuticals CEDD, GSK. "Its talent and world-leading technology will complement the work we are already taking forward in the CEDD to put GSK at the forefront of biotechnology."



Robert Connelly, Domantis's founding Chief Executive Officer, said, "The agreement with GSK allows us to embed our R&D organization intact within a company committed to fully exploiting the potential therapeutic applications of our technology. I am delighted that GSK has made this major investment in our technology, our people, and our product pipeline."

Domantis's next-generation antibody therapy

Monoclonal antibodies, laboratory-engineered versions of the antibodies found in the natural immune system, can bind with exquisite precision to targets in the body. Yet their therapeutic applications, while growing rapidly, have been constrained by their large molecular size. Currently marketed therapeutic antibodies have to be administered by injection or infusion.

- For further information about Domantis, please visit <http://www.domantis.com>.