

May 16, 2017

MilliporeSigma's CHOZN[®] Expression System Selected for Bi-specific Antibody Development by SystImmune

- **Accelerates development timelines with faster, easier selection and scale up of clones**
- **Delivers higher titers of recombinant proteins**

Billerica, Massachusetts, May 16, 2017 — [MilliporeSigma](#) today announced that its CHOZN[®] expression system will be used by SystImmune, a Seattle-based biotechnology company, for commercial development of a bi-specific antibody therapeutic.

The CHOZN[®] expression system is designed to deliver manufacturing-ready robust and stable producing clones with a workflow that minimizes the resources needed to complete a cell line development project. As a result, users are able to quickly evaluate more molecules in their pipeline.

"When compared with alternate expression systems, our CHOZN[®] system offers a turnkey solution that consistently delivers shortened development timelines," said Udit Batra, CEO, MilliporeSigma.

MilliporeSigma's CHOZN[®] expression system is based on a GS -/- Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell line.

"With only two scientists in our cell science department, we were able to generate more than 10 stable cell lines using this platform in a single year," said Camilla Wang, Scientist, SystImmune. "The CHOZN[®] platform outperformed other systems





News Release

in many ways. It is easy to use, requires less time to generate final single cell clones, and most of all, the expression level is consistently higher compared to the other approaches.”

Along with the CHOZN[®] cells, MilliporeSigma provides an expression vector, extensive user protocols, a comprehensive cell line history document and paired cGMP media and feeds. Services are offered for cell line development in the CHOZN[®] expression system. MilliporeSigma also offers gene engineering services using its CompoZr[™] zinc finger nuclease technology to engineer CHO cell lines with characteristics attractive to biopharmaceutical developers and manufacturers, including resistance to [Centinel[™] technology](#).

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About the Life Science Business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

The life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, which operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada, has 19,000 employees and 65 manufacturing sites worldwide, with a portfolio of more than 300,000 products enabling scientific discovery. Udit Batra is the global chief executive officer of MilliporeSigma.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany completed its \$17 billion acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich in November 2015, creating a leader in the \$125 billion global life science industry.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in healthcare, life science and performance materials. The company has six businesses – Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Allergopharma, Biosimilars, Life Science and Performance Materials – and generated sales of €15 billion in 2016. Around 50,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to foster the success of customers and to help meet global challenges.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is the world’s oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the company has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day. The company holds the global rights to the name and the trademark “Merck” internationally except for the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.