

First you add knowledge...

Danisco and TNO sign exclusive licensing agreement on exopolysaccharide-producing probiotic strains for weight management

September 4th, 2007: Today, the Dutch Research Institute TNO signed an exclusive licensing global agreement with the leading food ingredient manufacturer Danisco for the use of TNO's results and patents on exopolysaccharide-producing probiotic strains for weight management.

Over the past few years, TNO conducted, in collaboration with the Dutch University of Groningen, a multi-yearly R&D program on exopolysaccharides. This program led to the discovery that some exopolysaccharides could be used in weight management applications. These findings were eventually assessed in a GCP* human study conducted on 65 adults in 2006 at TNO premises in Zeist, Netherlands.

"We are very pleased that our research effort and expertise in health-promoting bioactive ingredients will result in commercial applications creating value for the food industry which is TNO's mission", says Dr. Hans Boumans, Product Manager Food Ingredients at TNO.

"This agreement is the achievement of a long-term relationship between Danisco and TNO and we hope to see many new food applications in the expanding weight management business" states Mark Kats, Business Developer at TNO.

"Danisco Cultures has build a core competency platform on Cultures producing exopolysaccharides as well as HOWARU probiotics for Health. We are now looking forward to opening new perspectives to food and supplement manufacturers with innovative applications in the near future", confirms Didier Carcano, VP Marketing Innovation for Danisco Culture division.

Overweight and obesity are one of the greatest public health challenges of the 21st century. In America more than 60% of the population is obese and in some European countries this percentage is almost similar. Obesity is one of the contributing causes to a large number of diseases: cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes, metabolic syndrome and arthritis. Considering the large numbers of obese people and the risks involved, there is great attention from both governments and the food industry to look for solutions to these problems.

*GCP: Good Clinical Practice

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Press Release

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About Danisco

With 10,500 employees in more than 40 countries, **Danisco** is one of the world's leading suppliers of food ingredients, sugar and industrial bioproducts. Based on our technology platform we use nature's own raw materials and resources to develop and produce ingredients for food and other products used in everyday life. Danisco ingredients are used in about every second ice cream and cheese, every third box of detergent and every fourth loaf of bread produced globally.

www.danisco.com/cultures

About TNO

TNO is a Dutch Research Institute that applies scientific knowledge with the aim of strengthening the innovative power of industry and government. TNO is divided in 5 core areas, from which TNO Quality of Life is the biggest one. Under the heading 'Quality of Life', TNO carries out research aimed at providing concrete solutions to problems encountered by industry and government bodies. With respect to food you could say that TNO Quality of Life is involved in the entire food/ingredient development chain and can offer its added value services and expertise in any stage of the development chain. TNO develops knowledge for important national and international market clusters such as 'Agriculture and Nutrition' and 'Chemistry and Pharmaceuticals'. Additionally TNO is an important partner for the government and public sectors in the area of healthcare and employment issues.

www.tno.nl