

## PRESS RELEASE

**Collectis launches a partnership with Total for exploratory research into microalgae-based substitutes for oil products**

**Paris, January 9th, 2012 – Collectis (Alternext: ALCLS), the French genome engineering specialist, is today announcing that it has signed an agreement with Total to develop microalgae-based oil substitutes. The research program includes an initial one-year phase, which may be followed by a second phase lasting two to three years.**

Over the long term, the use of microalgae could help supplement the offering for the chemical and energy markets, while reducing their environmental impacts.

The program's first phase will look into developing genome engineering methods and tools on certain microalgae species selected for their specific characteristics. The second phase would focus on trait engineering (specific changes to the metabolism and species) with a view to producing compounds which are currently derived from oil.

The application of Collectis' genome engineering expertise, will accelerate the domestication and engineering of the microalgae species selected, paving the way for the production of oil product substitutes. Total will bring its experience in biotechnology R&D partnerships, as well as its know-how for the industrial-scale development of techniques and technology integration, combined with its knowledge of the oil and chemical sectors.

The costs for this joint program will be split equally between the two partners, as will ownership of the technologies and products created through this work by Collectis and Total.

"This partnership with Total is going to help us develop our technology's potential in the field for oil product supplements", confirms André Choulika, Chairman and CEO of Collectis. "This alliance involves major stakes since it is focused on developing products derived from renewable biological resources for the energy and chemical markets".

**About Collectis**

Collectis improves life by applying its genome engineering expertise to a broad range of applications, including human therapeutics, biological research and agriculture. Collectis is listed on the NYSE-Euronext Paris Alternext market (code: ALCLS).

To find out more, visit [www.collectis.com](http://www.collectis.com).

**Disclaimer**

This press release and the information contained herein do not constitute an offer to sell or subscribe, or a solicitation of an offer to buy or subscribe, for shares in Collectis in any country. This press release contains forward-looking statements that relate to the Company's objectives based on the current expectations and assumptions of the Company's management only and involve risk and uncertainties that could cause the Company to fail to achieve the objectives expressed by the forward-looking statements above.

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