

# Press Release

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## **COLOR2B PROJECT: THE POTENTIAL OF DEINOVE'S STRAINS VALIDATED BY AVRIL**

- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> step of the project has been completed: the effectiveness and bioavailability of the ingredients developed by Deinove have been validated.**
- **Start of the third and final phase of the project: assessing the technical-economic criteria and preparing for industrial production of a new, natural active ingredient for animal nutrition.**

**Montpellier, 19 April 2017 (6:30 PM CEST)** – DEINOVE (Alternext Paris: ALDEI), a biotech company that discovers, develops and produces high value-added compounds using rare bacteria, notably from the *Deinococcus* genus, has announced that it has successfully completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> key step of its project aiming at developing a production process for natural feed additives, in collaboration with the AVRIL Group (COLOR2B project).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> step of the project validated the effectiveness and bioavailability of the compounds produced by the 7 strains selected by DEINOVE during the 1<sup>st</sup> phase. When added to the feed of farm animals in a field station, the compounds produced by these strains were well assimilated by their organisms and produced the desired effects.

The COLOR2B project is now entering its last phase, which is scheduled to be completed in 2018 and aims at:

- Selecting and optimizing 1 or 2 high-performing strains,
- Optimizing production conditions (by fermentation technology) and the processes for preparing the active ingredients,
- Defining the most profitable technical-economic conditions for production,
- Undertaking the required regulatory formalities to begin marketing these active ingredients.

*“The results of the in vivo tests demonstrated good assimilation by the animals and satisfactory performances. Our teams are now working with those at DEINOVE to validate the conditions for industrial production and commercialization of this feed supplement, which is intended to be included in our line of animal nutrition products,”* said France Thevenieau, Head of Research & Development at MiXscience (AVRIL Group).

Emmanuel Petiot, CEO of DEINOVE, added, *“COLOR2B is a strategic project for DEINOVE in the nutrition sector, which is one of our three target markets. This collaboration with AVRIL not only opens up revenue opportunities, but is also an opportunity for us to develop our skills in high value-added ingredients for ramping up our other programs. Its smooth progression has confirmed our strain library’s potential and the relevance of our strategic orientations.”*

## ABOUT THE COLOR2B PROJECT

This collaboration agreement, called COLOR2B, has been signed in August 2014 between DEINOVE and SOFIPROTÉOL (renamed AVRIL). Co-financed by the two partners, COLOR2B is an R&D project, which aims at developing a production process for natural feed additives. This includes selecting the best-performing bacteria strains from DEINOVE's strain bank, testing the compounds produced, qualifying their benefits for animal nutrition and health as well as developing the production process at pilot-scale.

- DEINOVE's expertise will focus on producing additives from their bacterial micro-factories, in an eco-friendly and economically viable way.
- The AVRIL Group's expertise will apply to feedstock selection, evaluation of the beneficial effects for animals, knowledge of the market and associated regulations, as well as marketing the technology developed.

Ultimately, the two partners strive to industrialize the bioproduction of such additives and launch new animal nutrition product lines.

## ABOUT THE AVRIL GROUP

Set up in 1983 at the initiative of French farmers in order to assure the future of the vegetable oil and proteins sector, AVRIL has become a major industrial and financial group that is developing in France and internationally.

AVRIL operates in sectors as diverse as human foods, animal feeds and expertise, renewable energies and chemistry, with a portfolio of strong brands that are leaders in their markets: Diester®, Sanders, Lesieur, Puget, Matines, Bunica, Taous...

In more than 30 years, the Group has changed in size but its purpose has remained the same: to create sustainable value in the vegetable oils and proteins sector while contributing to better foods for humans and preservation of the planet.

To fulfill its mission, AVRIL draws strength from its industrial activities organized around the vegetable oils and animal production sectors, as well as from its financial activity, which operates through the finance and development company Sofiprotéol.

In 2015, the AVRIL Group achieved turnover worth €6.1 billion. It counts 7,200 employees working in 21 countries

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## ABOUT DEINOVE

DEINOVE (Alternext Paris: ALDEI) is a biotech company that discovers, develops and produces compounds with industrial value from rare microorganisms, for the healthcare, nutrition and cosmetics markets.

These innovative production methods represent a sustainable and competitive alternative.

For this, DEINOVE relies on two key assets:

- A unique strain bank with 6,000 rare bacteria that have not yet been exploited, mainly of the *Deinococcus* genus;
- A genetic, metabolic and fermentation engineering platform that enables them to customize these natural micro-factories, transforming them into new industry standards.

Based in Montpellier, DEINOVE employs approximately 50 employees and has nearly 160 international patent applications. The Company has been listed on Alternext since April 2010.



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