

PRESS RELEASE

The European Commission has approved funding for the Iseult programme, coordinated by Guerbet in France, to advance the frontiers of medical imaging

Villepinte, 11 December 2008

The European Commission has approved a €54 million innovation grant by France for the Iseult programme devoted to a high field magnetic resonance neuroimaging technologies and applications.

Guerbet, a French pharmaceutical group specialized in medical imaging is the project coordinator for France for this research program financed by OSEO innovation with the CEA as the French partner.

Iseult is part of the Franco-German "Iseult/INUMAC" research program launched in 2006 by the French and German governments.

With a total budget of €137 million, participants in the consortium of manufacturing groups and public research laboratories include Guerbet (France), Siemens (Germany), Bruker (Germany), CEA (France) and the University of Freiburg (Germany).

For France, the OSEO innovation grant provides eight years of funding for Guerbet (€34 million) and the CEA (€20 million). Part of this funding is provided in the form of a repayable advance.

Guerbet will develop new contrast products for MRI molecular imaging adapted for high field magnetic applications. These innovative products will be destined for early diagnosis and therapeutic monitoring of Alzheimer's disease, cerebrovascular accidents and brain tumours.

The CEA (*Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique*) will develop at its NeuroSpin research centre (Saclay) unique worldwide very high field 11.75 T imager for clinical applications.

Siemens and the CEA will develop the specific instrumentation and tools for image analysis required to use the contrast products developed by Guerbet under the Iseult program.

For Claire Corot, Vice President for Research at Guerbet: *“Combining our expertise with those of other manufacturing groups and public research laboratories will enable us to take advantage of the potential of high-field molecular imaging techniques. Brain diseases will be able to be detected earlier and with particularly high precision. Imaging for the infinitely small with highly sophisticated products to provide customized treatment solutions for more effective patient care represents the future”.*

About Guerbet

Guerbet (www.guerbet.com) is the only pharmaceutical group fully dedicated to medical imaging. It has the most comprehensive range of x-ray and MRI contrast media available worldwide. These products assist medical professionals (radiologists, cardiologists, oncologists, etc.) in better diagnosing and treating their patients (cardiovascular, cancer, inflammatory and degenerative diseases).

To develop new products and assure its future growth, every year Guerbet devotes significant resources to research and development with 160 R&D employees representing an amount equivalent to approximately 9% of sales.

Guerbet is solidly positioned in Europe with a market share of 25% and is expanding its presence in the United States and Japan.

Guerbet, listed on Eurolist Euronext Paris (compartment B), had sales in 2007 of €306 million with a total workforce of 1,230 employees.

For additional information: www.guerbet.com

Contact:

Anne-Laure Delasalle, Director of Communications, Guerbet Group

Tel: +33 (0) 1 45 91 50 03

E-mail: anne-laure.delasalle@guerbet-group.com