



ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED

億勝生物科技有限公司

Press Release

ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED SIGNED TWO COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS WITH JINAN BESTCOMM PHARMACEUTICAL R&D CO

Hong Kong, 16 September 2009 — ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED (“Essex” or the “Group”—Stock Code: 8151) today announced that the Group has entered into two ophthalmic pharmaceutical collaboration agreements (the “Collaboration Agreements”) with Jinan Bestcomm Pharmaceutical R&D Co., Ltd (“Jinan Bestcomm”) in the third quarter of 2009.

Jinan Bestcomm is a high-tech enterprise specializing in the development of new medicine products and is the first enterprise of its kind to obtain ISO-9001 Quality Management System Certification.

Details of the Collaboration Agreements and the two ophthalmology pharmaceutical products covered under the agreement are:

1) Betaxolol Hydrochloride Eye Drop

The Group’s subsidiary, Essex Medipharma (Zhuhai) Company Limited has obtained an exclusive distribution rights for 10 years from Jinan Bestcomm to distribute Betaxolol Hydrochloride Eye Drop in China. Betaxolol Hydrochloride Eye Drop is an ophthalmology pharmaceutical product for the treatment of Glaucoma. It can lower intraocular pressure effectively to avoid optic nerve damaged and reducing the effect on heart and lung to minimal.

Glaucoma is usually caused by raised intraocular pressure leading to visual loss. When the drainage channels are blocked, fluid trapped inside the eye leads to elevated intraocular pressure. Such pressure damages the optic nerve head causing irreversible visual deterioration and eventually blindness. In China, the Glaucoma morbidity is around 0.12%~1.64% in which the fourth assassin for causing blindness. It also occupies 14.36% of the overall eye diseases. According to the China hospital sales report in 2008, the sales volume of Glaucoma drug products reached RMB0.32 billion.

Betaxolol Hydrochloride Eye Drop is developed by Jinan Bestcomm and has been approved by SFDA for production and commercialisation. The product is scheduled to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2009.

2) Tosufloxacin Tosylate Eye Drop

Another subsidiary, Zhuhai Essex Bio-Pharmaceutical Company Limited (“Essex Bio-Pharm”), has entered into another collaboration agreement with Jinan Bestcomm for the cooperation in the research and development of another ophthalmic pharmaceutical product, an ophthalmic antibiotics product --Tosufloxacin Tosylate Eye Drop. Essex Bio-Pharm and Jinan Bestcomm will jointly perform the pre-clinical and clinical trials of Tosufloxacin Tosylate Eye Drop and shall enjoy the future benefits equally.

The main ingredient of Tosufloxacin Tosylate Eye Drop is the 4th generation of quinolone. The 4th generation of quinolone has shown strong antibacterial activity and broad antibacterial spectrum but with minor side effect. Among the quinolone based eye drop antibiotics products, our product shall be the first to be considered medically suitable for use in children.

Pre-clinical trial of Tosufloxacin Tosylate Eye Drop was completed by Jinan Bestcomm in the first quarter of 2009 and is pending SFDA’s approval to commence the clinical trial.

About Essex Bio-Technology Limited:

Essex Bio-Technology Limited (“Essex”) was listed on the Growth Enterprise Market (GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 27 June 2001, under stock code (8151).

Essex specializes in biopharmaceutical drug development based on recombinant DNA technology. It is principally engaged in the manufacture and sale of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment and healing of surface wounds and eye wounds and the research and development of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment of duodenal ulcers and nervous system damages and diseases, as well as other ophthalmic pharmaceutical projects.

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