



Investing in the State of Innovation

## **ORYZON Opens U.S. Operation**

The European Epigenetic Company Opens New Office in Cambridge

**CAMBRIDGE, MA – October 9, 2014** – ORYZON Genomics, announced today that the Company is opening a U.S. operation which will be located at 245 First Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts. After incorporation of its U.S. affiliate, Oryzon Corp, in July 2014, the U.S. arm of Oryzon Genomics is now fully launching its operations in Massachusetts. Oryzon plans to have 15-20% of its total headcount in its U.S. office in the next quarter.

Through the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, Massachusetts is investing \$1 billion over 10 years in the growth of the state's life sciences supercluster. These investments are being made under the Massachusetts Life Sciences Initiative, proposed by Governor Patrick in 2007, and passed by the State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Patrick in 2008. MLSC has been in discussions with Oryzon since first meeting with them at the BIO convention in Boston in 2012.

"Massachusetts leads the world in life sciences thanks to our growth strategy of investing in education, innovation and infrastructure," said Governor Deval Patrick. "We welcome Oryzon, and we look forward to working with them to create jobs and opportunities in the Commonwealth."

Oryzon is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company and the European leader in EPIGENETICS, a field of biotechnology that tries to modulate the enzymes governing the regional functionality of the chromatin and thereof the expression of genes residing there. By switching off those modulators, genes that are improperly activated can be turned off, stopping the progression of grave diseases such as cancer and neurodegenerative disorders.

Oryzon's strategy is to develop "first in class" drugs through Phase II clinical trials, at which point it is decided on a case-by-case basis to either keep the development in-house or to partner or out-license the compound for late stage development and commercialization.

"We are very happy and excited in this crucial moment in our Company's history," said Oryzon's President and CEO Dr. Carlos Buesa. "As the epigenetics European leading company we have already achieved a number of important milestones in Europe, taking now the leap across the Atlantic is the natural progression on our maturation process as a company. I have no doubt that this project was not only necessary now but it is also going to be a success in the years to come. Becoming a successful player in the U.S. biotech market, the most important in the world, is the next challenge for our company"

Buesa went on to say that, "Massachusetts is clearly the place to be for an Epigenetic company, a hub that is hosting the major U.S. players in the field, like Epizyme or Constellation, and with a huge concentration of pharma industry and health technology".

"On behalf of the Center, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Oryzon as they open their first Massachusetts facility," said Susan Windham-Bannister, Ph.D., President & CEO of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, the agency charged with implementing Governor Patrick's 10-year, \$1 billion Life Sciences Initiative. "We first met with Oryzon at the BIO Convention in 2012 and couldn't be happier to welcome them to the growing life sciences cluster in Massachusetts."

"We are so pleased to work with Dr. Buesa and the Oryzon team as they grow to build operations in the United States," said Robert K. Coughlin, President & CEO of MassBio. "They are following the lead of a number of European companies choosing Massachusetts for the base in the U.S., and we are excited to welcome their expertise and leadership here."

"Today we welcome Oryzon's very literal groundbreaking move, which will allow our local residents and scientists to join in their accomplishments in the groundbreaking field of epigenetics, which is at the epicenter of life science breakthroughs," said State Representative, Marjorie C. Decker.

ORYZON' new U.S. office is located at:

ORYZON Corp. 245 First Street Suite 1800 Cambridge, MA 02142

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## About Oryzon

Oryzon leads the way in cutting edge epigenetic science with two first in class lysine-specific demethylase 1 distinct inhibitors (LSD1) for oncology and Alzheimer'd disease. Oryzon has a lead program, ORY-1001, granted with orphan drug status by EMA in August 2013 that is currently in phase I/IIA for acute myeloid leukaemia (AML). In April, 2014, Roche and Oryzon signed a worldwide collaboration to research, develop and commercialize inhibitors of Lysine Specific Demethylase-1

(LSD1; KDM1A), an epigenetic modulator that regulates gene expression. Under the terms of the agreement, Oryzon received an undisclosed upfront payment and a near-term milestone totaling \$21 million, plus potential development, commercial and sales milestone payments across hematology, cancer and non-malignant indications that could exceed \$500 million, together with tiered royalties on sales which range up to mid-double digits. The company has a second program in LSD1 inhibition, ORY-2001, devoted to Alzheimer's and Huntington's disease that is expected to enter in Clinical trials in 2015. ORY-2001 is an oral disease modifier drug able to stop memory decay and cognitive impairment in mouse AD models.

## About the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) is an investment agency that supports life sciences innovation, research, development and commercialization. The MLSC is charged with implementing a 10-year, \$1-billion, state-funded investment initiative. These investments create jobs and support advances that improve health and well-being. The MLSC offers the nation's most comprehensive set of incentives and collaborative programs targeted to the life sciences ecosystem. These programs propel the growth that has made Massachusetts the global leader in life sciences. The MLSC creates new models for collaboration and partners with organizations, both public and private, around the world to promote innovation in the life sciences.

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