

PreOmics receives Euro 13.5 million from Bruker Corporation in Series B financing round

This will enable the start-up at the IZB business incubator near Munich to accelerate the research, development and commercialization of proteomics technologies

MUNICH, Germany – January 18, 2022 – PreOmics GmbH, located in the Innovation and Start-up Center Biotechnology in Martinsried, is a Germany-based developer of innovative automation and sample preparation tools and consumables for unbiased, deep proteomics analysis by mass spectrometry, has raised €13.5m in a Series B financing round provided by Bruker Corporation (Nasdaq: BRKR). PreOmics was founded in 2016 by Dr. Garwin Pichler and Dr. Nils A. Kulak as a spin-out company from the laboratory of leading proteomics researcher Professor Matthias Mann at the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry in Martinsried. PreOmics offers unique technologies, advanced automation solutions and high-performance consumables for the homogenization, enrichment and sample preparation of biopsy, tissue, cell line and plasma samples in unbiased, deep proteomics for biopharma and clinical research.

Innovative platform for mass spectrometry-based protein analysis

PreOmics' innovative sample processing technologies for mass spectrometry-based protein analysis are complementary to Bruker's high-performance scientific instruments, as well as to proteomics mass spectrometry systems by other leading proteomics companies. Close collaboration synergies are expected to broaden the market opportunities for both PreOmics' BeatBox platform technologies and Bruker's timsTOF 4D proteomics platform with more complete, automated workflow solutions for academic and clinical researchers, for biomarker discovery and diagnostics companies, as well as for CRO and biopharmaceutical companies.

Bruker Corporation becomes main investor in PreOmics

Dr. Garwin Pichler, Co-Founder and Managing Director of PreOmics, commented: "We are excited to increase R&D, marketing and sales investments, and are pleased to have Bruker as a collaborator and major investor. Bruker shares our vision for advanced proteomic discovery processes for everyone, and a commitment to accelerate PreOmics' growth. Our existing and future customers and partners will benefit from accelerated investments at PreOmics and from proteomics solution synergies to extend our product offerings and global presence."

Improved technology for highly efficient proteomic analysis

Dr. Nils A. Kulak, Co-Founder and Managing Director of PreOmics, added: "We see a bright future for PreOmics' research, development and commercialization efforts, now accelerated by the Series B primary investments and Bruker as partner and scientific collaborator. Our novel BeatBox technology is seamlessly compatible with PreOmics' proteomic sample preparation technologies and in combination with the timsTOF Pro provides end-to-end workflows for processing of large tissue biobanks. Furthermore, we aim to develop integrated and automated BeatBox-based workflow solutions for every experience level and throughput need, while providing highest performance levels for unbiased, deep and comprehensive proteomics research."

Seed investors exit after only five years

In conjunction with the Series B financing, several early investors in PreOmics, such as High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF) and Think.Health Ventures, as well as certain business angels, have successfully sold their PreOmics shares to Bruker in a parallel secondary transaction, and Bruker is now a majority investor in PreOmics. Financial details of the secondary transactions were not disclosed.

Visionary entrepreneurs

Dr. Bernd Goergen, Partner with HTGF, commented on the successful exit: “The fact that our time as a seed investor in PreOmics has come to an end already after 5 years is a proof for the fantastic performance of both the management and the extremely innovative technology. Thank you, Garwin and Nils, for having us support a part of your journey. Joining forces with Bruker now paves BeatBox by PreOmics for high throughput tissue and cell homogenization 2 the way for setting gold standards in protein sample preparation and will make proteome analysis easier and more reliable than ever.”

Dr. Michael Ruoff of Think.Health Ventures said: “Think.Health is grateful for having shared an important part of PreOmics’ success story, which will continue also beyond our investment with the great support by Bruker. We appreciate Garwin and Nils as exceptional scientists and visionary entrepreneurs – a rare combination that we definitely need more of in Germany.”

Bruker expands its proteomics vision with unique PreOmics sample preparation technologies

Dr. Frank H. Laukien, President and CEO of Bruker Corporation, stated: “We are very pleased to invest in PreOmics, a leading proteomics sample preparation, automation and consumables company, with this Series B primary financing. By also acquiring a majority investment in PreOmics, Bruker further expands its proteomics vision to include the unique PreOmics sample preparation technologies, as well as more comprehensive, automated, robust and reproducible workflows and consumables for translational, biomarker and biopharma proteomics research.”

About PreOmics

GmbH PreOmics empowers our clients in life sciences to establish biological knowledge through efficient, reliable solutions and workflows that set the standard for protein analysis. Our team spirit, energy, and commitment empower us to be both creative and quality focused – A trusted partner with deeply rooted scientific experience. We envisage a future with revolutionary proteomic discovery processes open for everyone. Tools that reveal hidden causes of diseases, ensure sustainable nutrition, and provide diagnoses that enhance lives and society.

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About Think.Health Ventures

Think.Health invests as a boutique risk-taker in healthcare ventures. We continuously seek for innovations and disruptive business models in digital healthcare, life sciences, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology. For more information please visit www.think-health.de.

About High-Tech Gründerfonds

High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF) is a seed investor that finances high-potential, tech-driven startups. With around EUR 900 million in total investment volume across three funds and an international network of partners, HTGF has already helped forge more than 650 start-ups since 2005. Driven by their expertise, entrepreneurial spirit and passion, its team of experienced investment managers and startup experts help guide the development of young companies. HTGF's focus is on high-tech start-ups in the fields of digital tech, industrial technology, life sciences, chemistry and related business areas. To date, external investors have injected more than EUR 3.5 billion into the HTGF portfolio via more than 1,800 follow-on financing rounds. HTGF has also successfully sold interests in more than 150 companies.

Investors in this public-private partnership include the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, KfW Capital, and Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft e.V., as well as the companies ALTANA, BASF, BAYER, B.Braun, Boehringer Ingelheim, Robert Bosch, BÜFA, CEWE, Deutsche Bank, 3 Deutsche Post DHL, Dräger, 1+1 AG, EVONIK, EWE AG, FOND OF, Haniel, Hettich, Knauf, Körber, LANXESS, media + more venture Beteiligungs GmbH & Co. KG, PHOENIX CONTACT, QIAGEN, RWE Generation SE, SAP, Schufa, Schwarz Gruppe, STIHL, Thüga, Vector Informatik, WACKER and Wilh. Werhahn KG.

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About Innovation and Start-up Center for Biotechnology (IZB) in Martinsried near Munich

The Fördergesellschaft IZB mbH, founded in 1995, is the operating company of the Innovation and Start-up Centers for Biotechnology in Planegg-Martinsried and Freising-Weihenstephan, and has developed into a leading biotechnology center in Europe. More than 50 biotech companies with over 700 employees are currently located on 26,000 m² of land. Here, work focuses on the development of drugs against the most serious diseases, such as cancer, Alzheimer's and various autoimmune diseases. A key criterion for the success of the IZBs is their close proximity to top-level research at both the Martinsried/Grosshadern campus and the Weihenstephan campus. The new infrastructure measures such as the Faculty Club G2B (Gateway to Biotech), the IZB Residence CAMPUS AT HOME, the Elhardt Chemistry College, the two kindergartens Bio Kids and Bio Kids², as well as the two restaurants SEVEN AND MORE and Café Freshmaker are also location factors that are highly appreciated by the company founders. Successful companies that have emerged from the IZB include Medigene AG, MorphoSys AG, Micromet GmbH (today Amgen AG), Octopharma GmbH, Corimmun (today Janssen-Cilag), Rigontec GmbH (today MSD), ibidi GmbH, Coriolis GmbH and Immunic Therapeutics. More information at www.izb-online.de

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