

## ChemCon wins 2009 STEP award in the Process category

Freiburg, Germany based company ChemCon GmbH has been granted the 2009 STEP award in the Process category. The prize was ceremoniously presented to ChemCon's CEO, Dr. Raphael Vogler, on November 25th at a gala dinner at Commerzbank Tower in Frankfurt.

STEP Awards are given to innovative and strong growth companies in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. The specific proportion of the Award's initiators, Infracerv Höchst and F.A.Z. Institut in collaboration with the Award's numerous donors and partners is aiming one goal: supporting growing companies and giving way to achieve success (more information: [www.step-award.de](http://www.step-award.de)). The STEP Award is granted for achievements in the fields of pharmaceuticals, chemistry, life sciences, biotechnology, nanotechnology, medical technology and green technology. F.A.Z. Institut is owned by the German newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.

ChemCon is specialized in contract research and synthesis for active pharmaceutical ingredients and special chemicals. One of the company's main areas of expertise is the chemical synthesis of milligram to multi-kilogram amounts of active pharmaceutical ingredients for preclinical purposes as well as for human applications in all clinical phases, up to the commercial production aiming best possible quality and accordance with international quality standards for GMP manufacture of active pharmaceutical ingredients, bioinorganic reference substances and research chemicals.

ChemCon was awarded the STEP prize for the following outstanding process characteristics:

- Purpose-built equipment that optimizes and upgrades chemical processes (realized in collaboration with major pharmaceutical companies).
- Single material flow in clean rooms.
- A FDA audit in 2000 was passed without any observations, making ChemCon the first company in Germany to achieve this distinction.
- In the course of other GMP audits by US and European authorities, as well as numerous customer audits, ChemCon has never received any "critical observation".
- Proof of process efficiency: ChemCon obtained extremely rapid FDA approval for a cancer drug, in collaboration with a Seattle-based customer.
- ChemCon is ready to receive ISO certification in December 2009, giving proof that all of the company's processes are clearly organized and fully transparent.
- ChemCon's corporate mission for growth is supported by roll-out of an LIMS lab management system for R & D – a platform that also allows direct data access for ChemCon's customers.

Our ongoing investments in R&D and technical equipment at our Freiburg headquarters give us a long term competitive advantage thanks to our state-of-the-art labs that meet the most rigorous health and safety standards. These investments will guarantee the outstanding quality of our products.

ChemCon's long term success can only be assured via the employment of highly qualified and motivated staff members. To this end, we have (among other measures) rolled out an achievement based profit sharing program. We also continuously expand the scope of our strategic alliances with partners active in the field of analysis, R&D and chemical production.

Our market profile and positioning are bolstered by quality presentations at German and international congresses and conferences in the pharmaceutical and chemistry fields.

Freiburg, 30. November 2009

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