

Intas looks beyond biogenerics

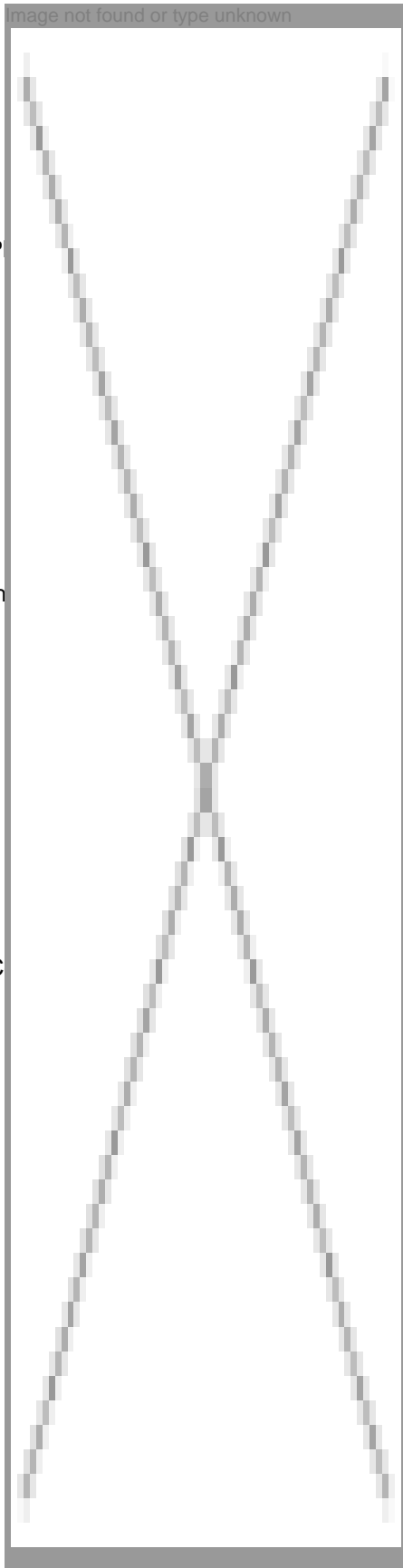
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Starting with biogenerics, Intas Biopharmaceuticals Limited is now heading for the development of proprietary and innovative recombinant biopharmaceuticals.



Intas Biopharmaceuticals Limited (IBPL) clocked annual revenue of Rs 89.27 crore for 2008-2009 as against Rs 50 crore in 2007-2008. The various business activities that IBPL is involved in are manufacturing and marketing of biogenerics like GCSF, Peg-GCSF, IFN- γ and EPO in Indian market, selling of oncology molecules in the Indian market, exporting biotech products to the semi-regulated markets, licensing out marketing rights for products per territory, contract research and contract manufacturing. When IBPL was formed as a division of Intas Bio of oncology molecules.

Most of the biotech molecules targeted by IBPL are in the oncology segment, which is the fastest growing therapeutic segment for biotech drugs. The oncology products of IBPL include Bonimet, Borviz, Lenome, Pemmet, Voritrop, Zolotem, Zolasta, Arsenox, Redimide, Dabaz, Merex, Arasid, Aspanese, Carbopa and Zodox, while its other biotech products include Neukine, Intalfa, Erykine and Neupeg. IBPL has technical collaborations with LPT Germany, NewLAB, Euro Sequence, Eugenex, Cellonic, Cytolab, Biocam, Ludgers and University of Montreal while some of its marketing alliances include Panacea Biotech, Intas Pharma, Natco Pharma, Fresenius Kabi, Biogenerics Australia, Apotex Inc., Hikma Biotech, Sanbe, ACL Biopharm, Cirin Pharmaceuticals, Novex Pharmaceuticals, Al-Gharash Pharmaceuticals and Adwia Pharmaceuticals. IBPL has also developed Indian and international markets.

IBPL has successfully executed a product development contract with a European company. The company provides full product development services that are from process development, analytical services, and formulation development to cGMP manufacturing. IBPL has also leveraged the regulatory and manufacturing expertise that it has gained through a technology sale (manufacturing technology) for one of its products. All this has been possible due to the skilled work force which IBPL has employed over the years. The company's average age profile is less than 30 and includes technical people with international experience. The company is primarily focusing on developing biosimilars and second-generation products (superior generics). IBPL has received the European Union-Good Manufacturing Practice (EU-GMP) certification for its manufacturing facility. Recently, the company has received quality certification from Medicines Control Cooperation Council (GCC).

During the fiscal, IBPL also launched Bortezomib injection, under the brand name Borviz, in the Indian market. Bortezomib offers effective treatment for multiple myeloma. IBPL signed an MoU with Government of Gujarat for setting up a separate manufacturing facility for monoclonal antibodies (MAbs), a recombinant mammalian platform product. The company will invest Rs 160 crore towards setting up a manufacturing facility at Sanand near Ahmedabad.