

## New chromatography CoE in Ahmedabad

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Thermo Fisher Scientific inaugurated its new centre of excellence (CoE) for Chromatography Consumables and Specialty Products in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, to provide enhanced application support for customers working across a broad range of applications, including pharmaceutical, environmental and food and beverage for the Asia Pacific region. The facility, located in the city's Pharma SEZ and spanning across an area of 3,500 square feet, is adjacent to the existing Fisher Biopharma services facility with an employee strength of around 70 people.

This is the first centre of excellence for the company in the APAC region. "Our investment in APAC region brings us incloser proximity to our customers and offers a local resource for technical and product support as we continue to build on our growth in the region," said Syed Jafry, senior vice president and president, Thermo Fisher Scientific for Asia Pacific and South America. Above all, in India, the company chose to open the CoE in Ahmedabad due to its strategic proximity to most of the top level pharma companies in the country and conducive environment for investment into the state. The Pharma SEZ, for instance, houses facility set-ups of companies like Zydus Cadila, Piramal Healthcare and Intas Pharmaceuticals.

### **Life Tech opens India distribution center**

Life Technologies, a global biotechnology company dedicated to improving human condition, has opened its regional distribution hub in India to address strong customer demand in the South Asia region. The new India distribution center, located in Bangalore, will boost the availability, timely delivery and quality of Life Technologies' products to its thousands of customers in the area. Life Technologies operates as Invitrogen Bioservices India in India and commenced operations in the year 2005 from Bangalore.

The India distribution center, which spans a built-up area of 25,000 square feet, adopts a hub-and-spoke model, with Bangalore as the regional hub for Life Technologies' product distribution throughout India. Since the center's inception, the

company's volume of items shipped per day in the region has increased four-fold with dramatically improved order fulfillment time that is up to 50 percent faster in most cases.

## **Persistent invests with Life Technologies**

Persistent Systems is partnering and co-investing with Life Technologies, a global biotechnology tools company, to build sequencing and fragment analysis software platform for capillary electrophoresis instrumentation that will be submitted for FDA clearance/approval. This solution represents an advanced genomic technology for clinics taking a step towards making personalized medicine a reality to combat critical human diseases like cancer.

They will work together to develop an integrated interpretation software and hardware solution that will intelligently use sequencing technology to analyze patient DNA samples through advanced, user-friendly software. As a technology partner, Persistent Systems will also be providing services to integrate assays from third party vendors.

## **Cole-Parmer's new catalog launched**

Cole-Parmer is launching its fifth annual catalog for scientific and process industry for the Indian market. The 272-page catalog has numerous unique and new products, as well as returning favorites. It is segmented into four key sections, i.e. fluid handling, laboratory essentials, process equipment, and laboratory equipment. This 2011 catalog is similar to last year's catalog, yet also offers enhancements. It has new products and competitive prices, and is designed to help customers in their product scale-up.

The catalog also has dual pricing featuring custom duty exempt prices and prices in rupees, making it handy for users to set up supply contracts.

## **Malvern Zetasizer Nano in research**

Prof Steven Armes and his research team in the Department of Chemistry, at The University of Sheffield in the UK, are using a Zetasizer Nano instrument from Malvern Instruments to monitor the rapid and efficient production of nanolatexes. This single instrument can determine both the particle size distribution and also monitor the zeta potential, making it an ideal characterization tool for following the in situ synthesis of many types of polymer colloids, such as latexes, microgels or colloidal nanocomposite particles.

"The Zetasizer Nano is so easy to use," said Prof Armes. "All my students can familiarise themselves with it very quickly. We are purchasing a second instrument."