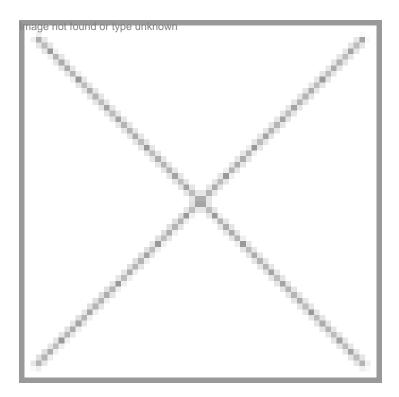


US executive life science mission visits India

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The US-India Business Council's first annual executive life sciences mission, led by C Nigel Thompson, executive director, economic and development strategy, Merck & Co. participated in the Biotech India 2005 show. The Mission included senior representatives from the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), the Chatterjee Group, Dow Chemical Company and Vickery International. Summarizing the mission's objectives, Thompson said, "Our priority for this Mission is to continue to build the private sector and academic connections that will lead to a dramatic increase in the US-India life sciences collaboration in 2005-06."