

Roche to support start-ups

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LabCentral and Roche have announced an agreement in which Roche would provide technology and financial support to LabCentral, a first-of-its-kind shared laboratory space designed as a launchpad for high-potential lifesciences and biotech startups.

"We are thrilled to welcome Roche as our newest gold sponsor. Having the world's largest biotech company on our roster of supporters is a testament to LabCentral's model designed to spur science innovation and fast-track startups to be successful and improve human health," said Mr Johannes Fruehauf, co-founder and president, LabCentral.

"Translating lifescience research into improved ways to diagnose disease is critical to the development of personalised healthcare solutions and better patient care. LabCentral and its resident companies are at the center of some of the most-promising healthcare research, and Roche is excited to be a part of their effort to foster this kind of innovation," said Roche diagnostics North America president and CEO, Mr Jack Phillips.

Roche instruments will expand capacity for LabCentral resident companies performing high-throughput DNA studies. They include a MagNA Pure 96 robotic workstation for automated purification of nucleic acids, LightCycler 96 Real-Time PCR system, and automated reagent freezer.