

Bioservices

A proficient network of knowhow to grow international markets

Bioservice companies are part of the rich fabric of the life sciences in the Western Switzerland region, providing valuable expertise and knowhow. Bioservices span the full business range from clinical research organisations (CROs) to next generation sequencing (NGS), through laboratories, clinical development and intellectual property consultants, to legal and financial specialists. The BioAlps region offers all the services inherent in bringing a product from idea to market, within easy reach.

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The strength of the Western Switzerland region lies in its tightly knit community, as well as the wide-ranging international experience of both scientists and professionals interacting with technology transfer offices, intellectual property consultants, manufacturing, research and clinical services hosted by the cluster. The academic life sciences core facilities in Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel comprise state-of-the-art imag-

ing, genomics, bioinformatics, proteomics, animal models, clinical and epidemiological studies, biomolecular screening, flow cytometry, protein expression and chemical analysis. The University Hospitals of Geneva, Lausanne and Bern participate in numerous clinical trials sponsored by Swiss and international companies. All the academic institutions encourage innovation, and several have set up innovation parks to promote start-ups and spin-offs, such as the Innovation Park (PSE) in the Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). Other innovation parks such as Eclosion in Geneva, Y-Parc in Vaud, Neode in Neuchâtel, and the Ark in Valais are sponsored by the cantons.

The life science industry has access to Contract Research Organisations (CROs) in the BioAlps cluster, such as Frimorfo, SOCAR Research and Covance, which provide the full range of services from pre-clinical research to large scale international clinical trials. Contract Manufacturing companies such as Baccinex, BASF or Lonza each have a specialised area of activity, offering the life science industry world-class research, develop ment and manufacturing from preclinical to commercial quantities. Beyond such multinational service companies, the BioAlps region also hosts intellectual property, patent, merger and acquisi tion, legal, financial and other experts and consultants, spanning disciplines and technologies for the greater benefit of the life sciences.

At the same time, start-ups such as Sophia Genetics are leveraging the new opportunities that next generation sequencing (NGS) offer, while more mature companies such as GeneBio offer Mass Spectrometry characterisation of proteins and small molecules as well as proteome imaging.



BACCINEX: LOCATION ENABLES FILL/ FINISH CONTRACT MANUFACTURING FOR THE WHOLE WORLD

Managed by Dr Ursula Bausch, Baccinex was founded in 1999 in the Canton of Jura and GMP certified in 2004. Specialised in freeze-drying and liquid sterile dosage forms for clinical trials for biotech and pharmaceutical development companies, Baccinex operates as a contract manufacturing organization for aseptic filling (vials and ampoules), lyophilization, terminal sterilisation, clinical packaging (randomized labelling), quality control release testing, stability studies (and stability storage according to ICH conditions), GMP storage, and development activities (scaleup, formulation, freeze drying cycle development, GMP consulting). The company has a strong expertise in scaling up projects for commercialisation, notably in fill/finish and lyophilisation of small molecules and biological products in vials and ampoules. Baccinex's facilities and cold storage allow GMP storage of primary materials and finished products. Baccinex processes about 50-60 different clinical projects each year and produces products for commercialization too. The company's geographic location in the BioAlps region enables it to organise worldwide shipments of samples, finished products or clinical trial supplies.

A POOL OF EXPERIENCED AND HIGHLY QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS

From idea to worldwide markets, the BioAlps region hosts research institutions, teaching and research hospitals, technology centres, service companies and expert consultants who all provide an environment conducive to research and development. The "can do" attitude of entrepreneurs to harness the wide array of expertise offers unparalleled prospects for those in search of opportunity.

The lists below are non exhaustive and showcase some examples of the work being done in the region. Find more information in our extensive database: bioalps.org/community/ and, for the six alpine regions, alpslifesciencesearch.com

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AT THE FOREFRONT OF BIOSERVICES IN WESTERN SWITZERLAND

To access the whole range of bioplatforms within the region's academic institutions:

Ecole Polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne <mark>EPFL</mark>	Technology Transfer Organisms: TTO EPFL	tto.epfl.ch	
University of Fribourg UNIFR	Tech Transfer Fribourg	tt-fr.ch	
University of Neuchâtel UNINE	TT Neuchâtel	unine.ch/unine	
Jniversity Hospital of Lausanne CHUV Jniversity of Lausanne UNIL	PACTT Technology Transfer UNIL-CHUV	pactt.ch	
Jniversity of Geneva <mark>UNIGE</mark> Jniversity Hospitals of Geneva <mark>HUG</mark> Jniversity of Applied Sciences <mark>HES-SO</mark>	UNITEC (UNIGE & HUG & HES-SO Geneva)	unige.ch/unitec	
Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology CSEM	Technology Transfer CSEM	csem.ch	
University of Bern and Bern University Hospital (Inselspital) UNIGE and HUG UNIL and CHUV	Clinical Trials Units Clinical Research Center (CRC) Clinical Research Center (CRC) Clinical epidemiology center (Cepic)	scto.ch	
Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics SIB	Bioinformatics resource portal ExPASy	isb-sib.ch/index.php	
University of Fribourg UNIFR	Fribourg Center for Nanomaterials (FriMat) Adolph Merckle Institute (AMI)	frimat.unifr.ch/en/page/29/www.am-institute.ch/industry	
Jniversity of Lausanne UNIL	Vaccine Formulation Laboratory World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre	unil.ch/ib/page81028.html	
Jniversity of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland (HEPIA / HES-SO)	Bio-engineering, micro devices for diagnostic	bio-ingenierie.ch/Quoi_Axes.html	
Jniversity of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland(ITV/HES-SO Valais)	Microbiological, biochemical and genetic analyses process and methods validation, biomass / biomolecules production, peptide and proteins technologies	itv.hevs.ch	

SAMPLING LIST OF LARGE AND SMALL BIOSERVICE COMPANIES IN THE BIOALPS CLUSTER

BACCINEX	Fill and finishing of sterile lyophilized or liquid dosage forms	baccinex.com	LONZA	Biotechnology and pharmaceutical products, services, and research	lonza.com
BACHEM	Process and manufacturing of peptides and complex organic molecules (APIs)	bachem.com	NV LOGISTICS	Worldwide life science logistics management	nvlogistics.com
COVANCE	Biotech and pharmaceutical drug development services	covance.com	PIXON ENGINEERING	Process development through the engineering, up to the execution with its final qualification / validation	pixon-ch.com
CELLNTEC	Innovative culture media, 2D and 3D in vitro models	cellntec.com	PRECLIN BIOSYSTEMS	In vivo preclinical testing platform for the identification and validation of lead candidate therapeutics	preclinbiosystems.com
EPITHELIX	In vitro human reconstituted human respiratory cells for research	epithelix.com	SELEXIS	Drug discovery, cell line development and scale-up to manufacturing	selexis.com
EXCELLGENE	Services in the field of improved processing from gene to large scale manufacturing of proteins	excellgene.com	SOCAR RESEARCH	Integrated and comprehensive services for the design, management and conduct of phase I/IV clinical trials	socar.ch
FASTERIS	Next-generation and Sanger DNA sequencing services	fasteris.com	SOPHIA GENETICS	Bioinformatics analysis, visualization and banking of patient NGS data	sophiagenetics.com
FRIMORFO	Preclinical contract research organization: efficacy studies and genotyping	frimorfo.com	SWISSFILLON	Automated filling line for vials, syringes and cartridges	swissfillon.info
GENEBIO	Software for characterizing small molecules, proteomics, proteins database and flow	genebio.com	UNILABS	Complete laboratory analysis services from sampling to testing and analysis	unilabs.ch
INTERLABOR BELP	Chemical, physical, microbiological and molecular-biological analyses	interlabor.ch	VALTRONIC	Provider of engineering, industrialization and manufacturing for Class II & III medical devices	valtronic.com

The fact sheet provides a view of the key players in the sector at any given time; it is not comprehensive and is subject to regular updates. This current edition was updated in Autumn 2019.













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