

# ACCELERATOR

Press release  
23 September 2008

## **Spago Imaging, subsidiary to Accelerator Nordic AB, signs agreement of cooperation with Nano-h, French nanoparticle company**

Spago Imaging AB, a subsidiary to Accelerator Nordic AB, has signed an agreement with Nano-h, a French nanoparticle company, on cooperation in developing nanoparticles for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). The agreement is a part of the ongoing development and commercialization of Gadolinium based nanoparticles by Spago Imaging and consists also of license on Nano-h's development of intravenous contrast agents for MR.

- The license agreement is a very positive step forward for Spago Imaging, since Nano-h has shown exceptionally promising results with its particles, says Andreas Bunge, CEO of Accelerator. I am very satisfied that we, with the cooperation initiated on MR, will be able to draw from the expertise of Nano-h.

Nano-h, situated in Lyon, has shown path breaking results with its development of nanoparticles for MR and was awarded by the French Ministry of Research and Innovation in 2004 for its innovative technology.

The new contrast agent developed by Spago Imaging provides possibilities of earlier discovery of cancerous tumors with MR, given that the particles developed are able both to provide contrast on extensively higher levels and to target specific tissues in MRI – something which is not possible today.

The developmental work within Spago Imaging is conducted on two fronts; to achieve better effects on contrast, in order to obtain clearer images, and to target the contrast agent to specific tissues. In the latter part focus is mainly on developing contrast agents that specifically target cancerous tumors and pathological tissues. Contrast agents with targeting capabilities will open new possibilities to earlier discovery of smaller tumors or other pathological tissue with MRI, which are not detectable with today's methods.

- The world market value in total for contrast agents for MR today is estimated to 2 billion USD. The market growth forecast is around 14 per cent a year till 2010. The introduction of contrast agents with targeting capabilities will expand the market even further, concludes Andreas Bunge.

*Accelerator Nordic AB is a company with active majority ownership positions in a number of development companies within Life Science. Among our interesting holdings are Pledpharma AB, which develops new pharmaceutical applications from a clinically approved Pled-derivative, SPAGO Imaging AB, which develops nano-particle based contrast media for diagnostic imaging, SyntheticMR AB, which develops analytical and visualization software for time-saving synthetic MRI, OptoQ AB, which markets and sells systems and technology platforms for safe and cost-effective patient monitoring, and Optovent AB, which develops and commercializes research-based innovations. Accelerator Nordic AB is a publicly listed company traded on the Aktietorget exchange in Stockholm, Sweden.*

**For more information, please visit, [www.acceleratorab.se](http://www.acceleratorab.se)**

**Spago Imaging AB develops nano-particle based contrast agents for diagnostic imaging with a focus on magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Product development is focused on tumor and cardiac imaging.**

**For more information, please visit, [www.spagoimaging.se](http://www.spagoimaging.se)**