

PRESS RELEASE



GlaxoSmithKline Marks its 50th Anniversary in Singapore with Opening of GSK's First Vaccine Plant in Asia

- GSK strengthens its presence in Singapore with a new S\$600 million vaccine plant
- GSK commits to new 10 year roadmap to boost excellence in R&D, green manufacturing, and talent development

Singapore, June 9, 2009 -- GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), a world-leading pharmaceutical company, today opened a new vaccine plant marking its 50th anniversary of doing business in Singapore. The new plant is GSK's first primary vaccine manufacturing facility and its biggest investment in Asia. Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong officiated the opening of the plant together with Mr. Andrew Witty, CEO of GSK. The plant costs a total investment of S\$600 million, and underscores GSK's strong commitment to Singapore and the Asia Pacific region.

GSK has had a strong presence in Singapore for the last 50 years since 1959, even before Singapore became an independent nation. Besides the local pharmaceutical and consumer healthcare operations, Singapore serves as the headquarters for GSK's Asia-Pacific operations and houses the Singapore Research Centre at Biopolis. In addition to this new vaccine plant, GSK has two global manufacturing and supply sites located in Singapore. With more than 1000 staff, GSK's total investment in the city-state now exceeds S\$1.5 billion.

"We are delighted to celebrate 50 years of pioneering work in Singapore," said Mr. Witty. "We look forward to growing our strategic partnership for the next 10 years and beyond and establishing Singapore as GSK's home for business, innovation, and talent, as encapsulated in our new vaccine plant."

"GSK's vaccine plant opening today is a culmination of many years' work to lay the ground for biologics manufacturing in Singapore. This milestone event points to Singapore's ability to plan for the long term and commitment to delivering on our promises," said Dr. Beh Swan Gin, Managing Director, Economic Development Board (EDB). "It is with this focus on the future that we are now re-positioning Singapore to become not just a Host but also a Home for Business from where key decision makers drive topline growth for their companies in Asia and globally. With our stable and pro-business environment, excellent connectivity, an industrial base that is broad and deep, Singapore is well placed to be the home base away from home for US and European companies looking to become industry leaders in Asia."

Once operational, the new plant will focus on producing purified bulk polysaccharides and conjugates which are used to manufacture GSK's new pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, meningitis, and other new innovative vaccines. The plant is one of the only two global sites for the production of bulk polysaccharides and conjugates; the other is in Belgium. The first potential commercial lots will be produced in 2011.

“GSK’s new pneumococcal conjugate vaccine is designed to protect against life-threatening diseases such as meningitis and bacteraemic pneumonia, as well as middle ear infections. The burden of childhood pneumococcal diseases is considerable and every year around one million children under five years of age die from pneumococcal infections,” said Mr. Emmanuel Amory, VP, Global Industrial Operations, GSK Biologicals. “This plant is part of GSK’s commitment to ensure maximum availability of this life-saving vaccine.”

The new facility will employ an array of new cutting-edge technologies such as Aseptic – Isolator Technology, which significantly lowers the risk of product contamination during manufacturing. Besides the new technology, GSK will initially employ about 200 staff and the company is investing in training and development to equip them with the skills and knowledge to operate the new facility.

Built on an 85,000 square metre plot of land, the new state-of-the-art facility will include high-tech production buildings, quality control laboratories, a utility plant, a warehouse and other support buildings. In May 2009, the plant’s warehouse was awarded the Green Mark Gold status by Singapore’s Building and Construction Authority (BCA).¹ The award was granted on the basis of the warehouse’s energy efficiency, water efficiency, environment and construction management, good indoor air quality, and other green features and innovations. Environmentally-friendly design concepts were also incorporated in other parts of the plant.

The opening of the vaccine plant is part of GSK’s long-term commitment to Singapore and the beginning of a new 10 Year Roadmap with the Government of Singapore and the Economic Development Board (EDB). Under the new roadmap, Singapore will remain a key business centre for GSK.

In addition, the 10 year strategy sets out how GSK will work with EDB and others to:

- Build a stronger R&D presence in Singapore through the creation of an Academic Center of Excellence (ACE) for Discovery Research. The ACE will become a catalyst to help locate additional R&D in Singapore and build up GSK’s R&D presence.
- Develop new capabilities in one of the fastest growing and important manufacturing technologies of the future – Green Manufacturing. To help support this objective GSK will set up an Endowment Programme which will support graduates and others develop skills and carry out research in this vitally important field.
- Support graduates, through the Endowment Programme, wishing to study or carry out research into Public Health Policy, as part of an ongoing effort to develop talent and leadership in Singapore.

¹ The BCA Green Mark Scheme was launched in January 2005 to move Singapore’s construction industry towards more environment-friendly buildings. It is intended to promote sustainability in the built environment and raise environmental awareness among developers, designers, and builders. Buildings are awarded the BCA Green Mark based on five key areas of energy efficiency, water efficiency, site development and management, indoor environmental quality and environmental protection, and innovation. For further information, please visit www.bca.gov.sg

About GlaxoSmithKline and GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals

GlaxoSmithKline – one of the world’s leading research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare companies – is committed to improving the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer. For further information please visit www.gsk.com.

GSK Biologicals, GSK’s vaccines business, is one of the world’s leading vaccine companies and a leader in innovation. The company is active in the fields of vaccine research, development and production with over 30 vaccines approved for marketing and 20 more in development. Headquartered in Belgium, GSK Biologicals has 13 manufacturing sites strategically positioned around the globe. In 2008 GSK Biologicals distributed 1.1 billion doses of vaccines to 176 countries in both the developed and the developing world – an average of three million doses a day.

Through its accomplished and dedicated workforce, GSK Biologicals applies its expertise to discover innovative vaccines that contribute to the health and well-being of people of all generations around the world.

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