

PRESS RELEASE

Awarded by the Rabelais Foundation, VitamFero received the Indre & Loire Top Companies 2011 Trophy for Best Innovation

Evry, 16th January 2012 - VitamFero, a biotech firm in the Genopole® cluster with a secondary facility in Tours (Indre & Loire) and a developer of novel vaccines, initially veterinary, to prevent specific parasitic diseases, announces its winning of the Indre & Loire Top Companies 2011 trophy for Best Innovation. Thus, VitamFero once again receives recognition for the quality of its R&D programs and its strong growth and economic development prospects.



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Pascal Breton, Chief Executive Officer of VitamFero, was presented the award by Mrs. Yolande de la Cruz, President of the

Rabelais Foundation, and by Dr. Loïc Vaillant, President of François-Rabelais University of Tours on the 12th of last December. Thanking them for their interest in VitamFero and their generous support of recent years, Pascal Breton noted that, *"this award represents strong encouragement to pursue and reinforce development of our firm. It adds to our credibility in an economic setting that is difficult by all counts. It is vital since, in order for us to complete development of our vaccines and proceed to market launch, VitamFero must again convince investors and venture capital funds to place their confidence in us."*

In turn, Mrs. Yolande de la Cruz stated, *"The Rabelais Foundation justifies its role with the exploiting of innovations that are veritable revolutions in their fields. Research in the Touraine region is worthy of support. However, one must then do all that is possible to successfully translate discoveries into businesses. That is the direction in which the Rabelais Foundation must endeavour."*

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About VitamFero

A firm founded in 2005, **VitamFero** (www.vitamfero.com) exploits major research and patents jointly held by the CNRS, INRA and François-Rabelais University of Tours in the field anti-parasitic vaccines, initially in animal health, addressing a sphere of largely unmet needs. VitamFero reposes on solid, perfectly validated science that is based on development of live parasitic strains attenuated by targeted, complete deletion of virulence genes.



About The Rabelais Foundation

The Rabelais Foundation was formed in 2008 by François-Rabelais University of Tours with support from several partners: Cythia, the Banque Populaire, the Caisse d'Epargne, Actiforces, Audilab, La Nouvelle République, TV Tours Val de Loire, GDF-Suez, STMicroelectronics. The Rabelais Foundation has three major objectives at its core: strive for scientific excellence, seek out educational innovation and be a university partner to the surrounding region. The Rabelais Foundation wishes to enable acquisition of high level infrastructure, a tool for fundamental or applied research for the benefit of researchers as well as students, to host Chairs of Excellence, enhancing international recognition, in priority subjects defined jointly: Food and Health, Novel Management Methods and Sustainable Economic Development. Furthermore, the Rabelais Foundation wishes to enrich student life and encourage their mobility, to provide a role model in its steps to durable development within the university and to become a player in the cultural sphere.



About Genopole®

The first French bio-park dedicated to research into genetics and biotechnologies applied to health and the environment, **Genopole**® is a cluster of 20 research laboratories, 66 biotech firms as well as university-level education (Evry-Val-d'Essonne University). Its mission – to foment research in genomics, post-genomics and related fields and industrial development of technologies, to develop high-level educational programs in those fields and to foster creation and support of biotech firms. (www.genopole.fr).

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