



*life*science zurich

Dear reader,

Thanks to its great combination of academic excellence and a liberal economy, Zurich is one of the leading life science centers in Europe.

The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, the ETH Zurich, is the top ranked university in continental Europe. The University of Zurich with its University Hospital belongs to the top 5 European universities in biomedical science. Synergies between the two institutions abound, greatly advanced by physical vicinity and complementary research as well as by joint MSc and PhD programs.

Academic excellence, high profile education programs and the high quality of life render Zurich not only very competitive in the global market for talent at student and professorial, but increasingly at the entrepreneurial level too.

Aided by the proximity to top pharmaceutical companies such as Roche and Novartis and to the strong financial sector in Zurich, academic excellence in the biomedical sciences serves as a motor for innovation in the biotech and medtech sector. Joint activities of universities and private companies provide favorable conditions for young start-up companies. Benefits such as low-cost rental space at the university's labs during the first years and the availability of biotech parks and business incubators in and around Zurich are a matter of course.

Ultimately a result of the highly successful Life Science Zurich initiative, we have recently taken the synergies between the two academic institutions one level up and launched the Life Science Zurich business initiative.

By guaranteeing to further stimulate and facilitate knowledge and technology transfer between different educational institutions and the private sector, Life Science Zurich will continue to attract foreign life science companies to Zurich where they access and enrich our technology and talent pool.

Life Science Zurich



Prof. Ernst Hafen



Prof. Michael Hengartner

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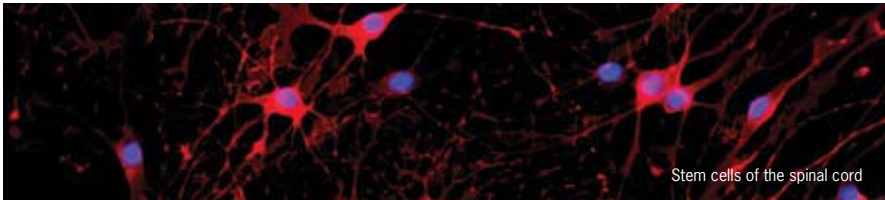
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Acknowledgements

Life Science Zurich



Life Science Zurich is an initiative of ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich to collaborate in outstanding research and top level education programs – the foundation for unrivalled business opportunities.

Top biomedical research at ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich is at the basis of unique business opportunities in Zurich. The two universities collaborate on numerous research programs of great international significance such as SystemsX.ch and the Neuroscience Center Zurich. They are typical, and outstanding, examples of well-integrated, interdisciplinary research and industrial collaboration.

Key Competence Centers

- Systems Biology (SystemsX.ch)
- Systems Physiology and Metabolic Diseases (CC-SPMD)
- Neuroscience Center Zurich (ZNZ)
- Cancer Network Zurich (CNZ)
- Structural Biology NCCR
- Plant Science Center (PSC)
- Functional Genomics Center Zurich (FGCZ)
- BEST BioEngineering Cluster (BEC)
- Center for Imaging Science and Technology (CIMST)

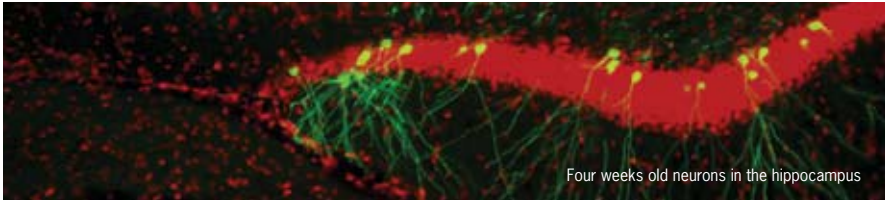
The steadily increasing number of Life Science start-ups embodies the high entrepreneurial spirit that characterizes the Greater Zurich Area. Dedicated support from a network of institutions, incubators and clusters of established companies constitutes Zurich's unrivalled appeal to exceptional researchers and unmatched potential for business opportunities.

- Excellent point of entry for life science research at ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich
- More than 70 Institutes and 26 Clinics are involved in a variety of research disciplines
- Life Science Zurich Graduate School, consisting of nine highly competitive PhD programs
- Life Science Zurich Learning Center is a unique education center
- Exceptional research – an unmatched potential for business opportunities

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ETH Zurich



The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, ETH Zurich, is a leading global natural science and engineering university with a particularly strong focus on life sciences. ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich closely collaborate in many areas of life science research and education programs. These combined efforts constitute the Life Science Zurich initiative.

The pre-eminent stature of ETH Zurich as a cutting edge international research institute is exemplified by no less than twenty-one Nobel Prize winners among its ranks. The strong focus on life sciences is reflected in two outstanding Nobel laureates: Werner Arber, honored for the discovery of restriction enzymes and their application to problems of molecular genetics, and Kurt Wüthrich for the development of NMR spectroscopy for determining 3D-structures of biological macromolecules.

ETH Zurich is proud of its very international environment with about 25% international students and more than 50% international professors. ETH Zurich is particularly conducive to topnotch research, clustered in platforms for converging disciplines like nanotechnology, material sciences, energy, bioengineering and others. Life Science Zurich is a result of this spirit. Life Science Zurich is an initiative of ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich to closely collaborate in numerous life science research and education programs.

Prominent examples of Swiss excellence in life sciences are SystemsX, Systems Physiology and Metabolic Diseases, and Neuroscience Center Zurich.

Key Competences

- ETH Zurich is a leading global natural science and engineering university with a particularly strong focus on life sciences
- Life Science Zurich is an initiative of ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich to collaborate in life science research and education
- Life Science competence centers: SystemsX, Systems Physiology and Metabolic Diseases, Neuroscience Center Zurich, Cancer Network, Functional Genomics, Structural Biology, Plant Science Center and Imaging Center
- Top level research at ETH Zurich is clustered in interdisciplinary platforms: Micro- and Nano Science Platform, Material Research Center, Energy Science Center, BioEngineering Cluster, and others

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www.ethz.ch

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www.mrc.ethz.ch

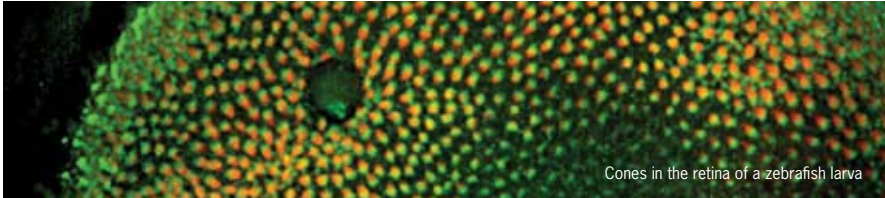
www.esc.ethz.ch

www.bec.ethz.ch

www.micronano.ethz.ch



University of Zurich



The University of Zurich is the largest university in Switzerland. It offers a great diversity of studies to its 24,000 students, with more than 100 different subject courses in the faculties of economics, law, humanities, science, medicine, veterinary medicine and theology. Its strong commitment to the highest standards in scientific knowledge and responsible research are the fundamentals of excellence in research and teaching.

As member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), the University of Zurich belongs to the leading European research universities. On the national level, i.e. in Switzerland's five strategic focal research areas, the University is a leader in the fields of life sciences, economics and humanities. With a modern infrastructure and well integrated into the cultural and economic metropolis, the University of Zurich offers an attractive and stimulating working environment with excellent local and international networks to about 2,000 lecturers from all over the world. Of great importance to the University of Zurich is the promotion of young academics whom it strongly supports in their research and international careers. Through a close cooperation with the ETH Zurich (the Federal Institute of Technology), as well as with other institutions of higher education in Switzerland and worldwide, the University of Zurich initiates and sustains a lively and inspiring academic exchange at the highest level.

Key Competences

- The University of Zurich is one of Europe's leading research universities, and is a member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU)
- 12 Nobel Laureates, e.g. Prof. Rolf M. Zinkernagel was honored with the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1996 for research on the biochemical mechanism with which the immune system recognizes and destroys virus-infected cells
- 450 Professors, of which 200 are international professors
- 24,000 Students, of which 3,200 are international students

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University Hospital Zurich



Dividing stem cell in the embryonic brain

The University Hospital Zurich is Switzerland's largest hospital and a pioneering institution in the field of clinical research. In its 42 departments and institutes the University Hospital Zurich assembles and practices all medical disciplines. It enjoys an excellent reputation for state-of-the-art medicine, professional and compassionate patient care, as well as ground-breaking bench-to-bedside translational medical research.

The University Hospital Zurich takes pride in many different key areas of excellence. It has played a pioneering role in developing an interdisciplinary approach to modern medicine. At the University Hospital Zurich, specialists from diverse fields have managed to create an enormous pool of expertise and collective experience through close collaboration over the years. As a result, many progressive diagnostic and therapeutic techniques being used worldwide today have their origin at the University Hospital Zurich. The development of such techniques has helped foster the hospital's reputation for excellence as a research institution. Furthermore, with its Clinical Trials Center the University Hospital Zurich has a clinical research infrastructure at its disposition that supports research groups with the planning and realization of their clinical trial projects and assures clinical trials are conducted according to the international Good Clinical Practice Standards (GCP-Standards). The Clinical Trials Center has in- and out-patient units at the University Hospital Zurich available where research projects with healthy volunteers or patients are conducted.

Key Competences

- The University Hospital Zurich offers high quality treatment for a broad range of illnesses, provided by a dedicated team of leading specialists of the highest international standing
- The University Hospital Zurich is a pioneering institution in the field of clinical research. Through its Clinical Trials Center it offers an extensive clinical research infrastructure that assures innovative and excellent clinical research
- The hospital's philosophy is to bring together expertise, technology and research in the most efficient and sensitive way possible
- In close cooperation with the University of Zurich and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich), research is done at the highest level; researchers are at the forefront of medical advancement and regularly receive national and international awards
- The University Hospital Zurich has been consistently in a position to attract top international talent as heads of departments

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Life Science Zurich Graduate School



The Life Science Zurich Graduate School (LSZGS) consists of nine highly competitive PhD programs, run jointly by the ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich. We aim to attract the most promising young scientists from across the world to the Greater Zurich Area. Our programs offer a comprehensive PhD education that allows our students to emerge as tomorrow's leaders in life science research.

The Life Science Zurich Graduate School (LSZGS), founded in 2005, is a joint initiative of the ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich (UZH). In its nine joint ETH/UZH PhD programs, the LSZGS has over 300 faculty members teaching almost 900 PhD students.

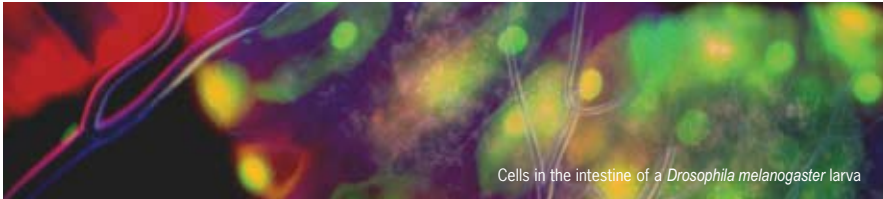
The nine PhD programs have similar overall structures, including dedicated PhD-level courses, active mentoring of student progress via thesis committees, and multiple student activities such as retreats, conventions, and seminars with student-invited speakers. All programs share the same challenging application procedure: Twice a year, LSZGS issues a call for the submission of written applications, and the most promising applicants are invited to Zurich for interviews based on specific interest of LSZGS faculty members. Despite its young age, the LSZGS has already become a phenomenal success, being the largest, and certainly one of the best-known life science graduate schools in Europe. In less than three years, the LSZGS has established itself as one of the most sought-after addresses by top students.

Key Competences

- The LSZGS houses nine highly competitive PhD programs, offering a challenging and sophisticated PhD education
- The LSZGS issues an international call for applications twice a year
- Application deadlines are July 1 and December 1
- The LSZGS has become a life science center of excellence in less than three years

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The Swiss Initiative in Systems Biology, SystemsX.ch, was created to enhance and extend interdisciplinary research. It aims at integrating existing technical and intellectual resources with the appropriate facilities and financial support. Research is promoted in a network of large research, technology and development projects (RTDs), interdisciplinary PhD programs, and interdisciplinary pilot projects.

SystemsX.ch research is currently carried out in 80 research groups which are part of eight research, technology- and development programs (RTD) devoted to systems biology. Eleven Swiss universities and research institutions are part of the initiative. Financing for SystemsX.ch is provided by federal funding of CHF 100 Mio over the period of 2008-2011. Supplementary funds are contributed from industry or other funding agencies.

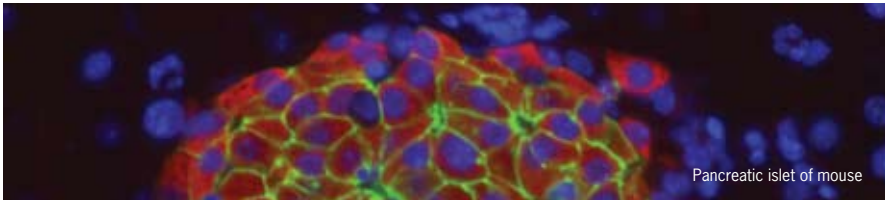
SystemsX.ch aims to become a world-leading initiative in quantitative systems biology. This goal shall be achieved by combining Switzerland's strengths in genomics and biomedical research with its flourishing basic research in the areas of chemistry, mathematics, physics, and engineering. In a paradigm shift, biology is moving from a descriptive, qualitative science to a predictive, quantitative one. SystemsX.ch aims to accelerate this shift on three avenues: by developing innovative technology to obtain and analyze quantitative biomedical data; via building mathematical models that accurately simulate and predict the behavior of biological systems, and most importantly: by asking the right biological questions.

Key Competences

- SystemsX.ch is currently the largest Swiss research effort
- It is funded by the Swiss Government and its partner institutions over the amount CHF 200 Mio for 2008-2011
- SystemsX.ch aims to make Switzerland a global leader in systems biology research

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The Competence Center for Systems Physiology and Metabolic Diseases (CC-SPMD) is a research and education program of ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich that links over 20 faculty members from different academic units including biology, medicine, computational science and engineering. CC-SPMD embodies an interdisciplinary, team-based approach to develop the scientific foundations for personalized medicine and innovative therapeutics for metabolic diseases.

CC-SPMD is built around the shared vision of applying tools and insights from many disciplines to promote discoveries in biology and their application in medicine. It also offers a broad range of educational activities in systems biology. CC-SPMD has developed two multi-investigator research programs in diabetes and is in the process of seeding other activities in this area.

The «beta-cell Systems Biology» project aims at defining the pathophysiology underlying beta-cell failure in diabetes through a systems level understanding of cellular information processing, the discovery of biomarkers and the imaging in vivo of beta-cell function. It is executed in collaboration with Roche to develop mechanism-based innovative medicines.

The «LiverX» project is dedicated to the study of hepatic insulin resistance by building a framework that integrates prior knowledge on cellular signaling with systematically acquired quantitative data on multiple parts of the involved hormonal and metabolic control networks in the context of single cells, organs and whole organisms and subjects with insulin resistance.

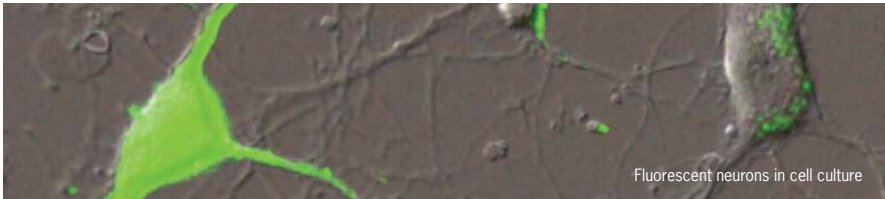
Key Competences

- CC-SPMD is a Zurich-based life science campus-wide research and education program with the mission to develop the scientific foundations for personalized medicine and innovative therapeutics for metabolic diseases
- CC-SPMD pursues high-impact application of its discoveries by forming alliances with the pharmaceutical industry and biotechnology companies
- CC-SPMD supports the development of complex technologies and their application in the metabolic disease area
- CC-SPMD promotes education by offering a PhD program in «Systems Biology of Complex Diseases» (as part of the Life Science Zurich Graduate School) and by organizing conferences specializing in this subject

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Neuroscience Center Zurich



The Neuroscience Center Zurich (ZNZ) is a joint competence center of ETH Zurich and University of Zurich. Its aim is to create synergies between its members, 450 neuroscientists from research and teaching faculties. About 100 basic, clinical and applied research groups cover the entire spectrum of neuroscience ranging from molecular and cellular processes in the brain over physiology and diseases of the nervous system to computational modeling and psychology.

Founded in 1998, the ZNZ is one of the oldest and largest competence centers in Zurich. Research focuses on the following areas:

Neural Basis of Behavior
Aging and Disorders of the Nervous System
Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience
Development and Regeneration
Excitable Membranes and Synaptic Transmission
Endocrine and Autonomic Regulation, Neuroimmunology
Molecular Pharmacology
Motor Systems
Sensory Systems
Computation and Modeling
Biomedical Technology and Imaging

In 2001, the ZNZ became the Swiss National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) in «Neural Plasticity and Repair». One of ZNZ's priorities is to interact closely with the pharmaceutical industry to ensure efficient knowledge and technology transfer.

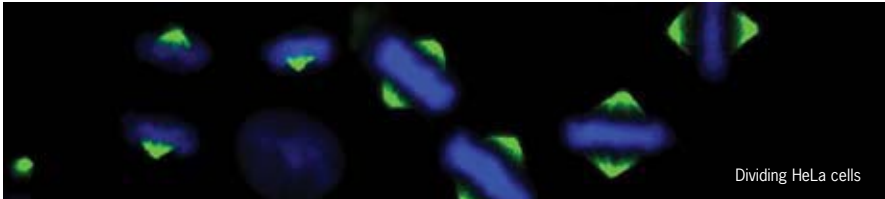
Key Competences

- ZNZ and its 450 researchers cover a broad spectrum of neuroscience
- ZNZ aims at synergies between clinical and basic neuroscientist research and engineering
- ZNZ is closely collaborating with pharmaceutical companies
- ZNZ offers an International PhD Program in Neuroscience

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The Cancer Network Zurich



The Cancer Network Zurich (CNZ) was initiated to generate synergies, to encourage collaborations and to facilitate communication between clinicians, research scientists and the public at large in matters concerning diagnosis, prognosis, therapy and prevention of cancer. The CNZ offers ambitious and talented students an international PhD program in Cancer Biology.

In order to combat cancer, we need to identify its underlying causes through intensive and multidisciplinary research. Members of the CNZ are leading oncology research experts from the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich, the University Hospital Zurich, the Childrens' Hospital Zurich, the Balgrist Clinic and the Paul Scherrer Institute, all of whom represent areas of basic, clinical and translational cancer research.

To support further education and networking, the CNZ concentrates on information and practical know-how exchange, joint seminars and retreats, as well as on the establishment of reagent, cell and tissue repositories.

The CNZ offers highly motivated and talented students with interest in cancer research an international PhD program as part of the Life Science Zurich Graduate School. Students accepted into this program have the opportunity to attend specialized courses in Molecular and Cell Biology of Cancer, Clinical Cancer Research, Scientific Writing and Ethics.

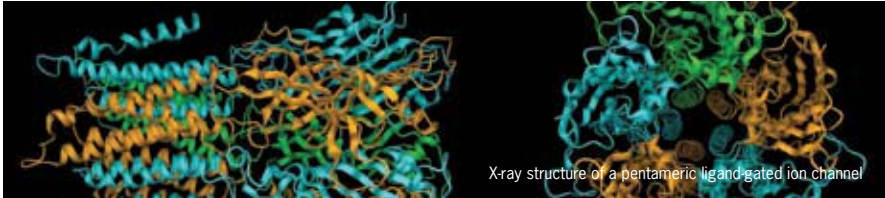
Key Competences

- CNZ represents areas of basic, clinical and translational cancer research
- CNZ has been created to facilitate communication and collaborations between basic cancer researchers and clinicians
- CNZ includes more than 50 faculty members of the University of Zurich (UZH), ETH Zurich and the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI)
- CNZ houses an international PhD program in Cancer Biology with over 60 students

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NCCR Structural Biology



The National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) Structural Biology is a Zurich-based research initiative of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). Its research encompasses the fields of recombinant protein technologies, macromolecular structure determination and computational biomolecular sciences with a special focus on membrane proteins and supramolecular assemblies/interactions. 19 research groups from Swiss Universities and Research Institutions participate in this network.

With its overall goal to investigate structure/function relations and interactions of membrane proteins and supramolecular assemblies, the NCCR Structural Biology addresses fundamental challenges in structural biology and protein research. The results improve our understanding of molecular recognition processes and signaling pathways. Critical to this research is the access to advanced protein, structure determination and computational technologies that are prominently and well represented at the NCCR Structural Biology. The strong association with the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich is a guarantee for cutting-edge research. Hence, groundbreaking results were achieved in all research areas since the start of the program in 2001.

A special asset is the establishment of three technology platforms for the production, labeling and high-throughput crystallization of proteins for structural biology experiments. A number of systems investigated in the NCCR Structural Biology are of high relevance for future biopharmaceutical applications, and offer attractive long-term partnering opportunities to the private industry.

Key Competences

- NCCR Structural Biology is specialized in the investigation of structure/function relations of membrane proteins and supramolecular assemblies, as well as in technology development
- NCCR Structural Biology currently comprises 19 research groups and almost 200 scientists from the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich, the University of Basel, and Paul Scherrer Institute
- NCCR Structural Biology offers access to advanced technologies in the area of structural biology, and provides cutting-edge research of structure/function relationships
- NCCR Structural Biology offers attractive partnering opportunities to the private industry

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Zurich–Basel Plant Science Center



The Zurich – Basel Plant Science Center (PSC) is a competence center in the area of plant sciences. It coordinates and promotes research and education in plant sciences at three Swiss universities: the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich and the University of Basel. Currently, the PSC network comprises about 700 scientific collaborators.

The PSC was founded in the year 1998 as a joint interdisciplinary research and educational network of plant sciences. Scientists within the PSC network are searching for realizable solutions to produce sufficient plant food for the growing population of our world, to protect the natural resources and to conserve the ecosystems. The PSC covers numerous research fields from Molecular Plant Biology to Environmental Sciences, from Systematic Botany to Agronomy. Currently, the PSC comprises 29 research groups, situated at 9 institutes of the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich and the University of Basel.

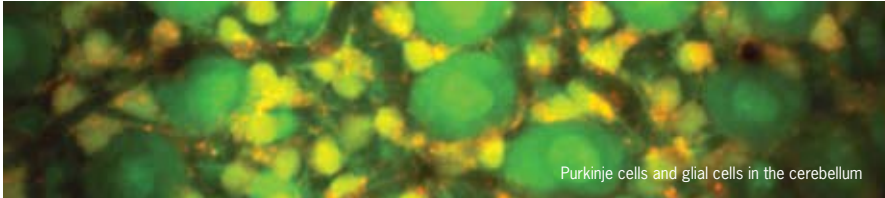
Key Competences

- To promote scientific exchange and co-operation between the participating research groups
- To plan and carry out innovative, complex projects at a high scientific level
- To increase knowledge about plants and the organisms with which they interact, from the molecular level to the level of the ecosystem
- To guarantee future competence in the field of plant sciences by offering excellent teaching and training programs
- To encourage dialogue with the public by contributing a scientific point of view to social, economic, and political topics

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The Functional Genomics Center Zurich



The Functional Genomics Center Zurich (FGCZ) is a joint state-of-the-art research facility of ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich. In collaboration with the Zurich Life Science research community, the FGCZ engages in research and technology development projects in genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, and bioinformatics.

Research projects range from research and development collaborations, with academic and industry partners to standard service-for-fee analysis. Strong emphasis is put on cutting edge technologies and expert support, as well as on the scientific quality of the generated data and the respective data analysis.

Key Technologies

Genomics / Transcriptomics:

- Affymetrix GeneChip platform
- Agilent microarray platform
- In situ custom microarray system
- Custom non-contact and contact spotted microarrays (3 spotters)
- Automated hybridization systems (2)
- Multi-wavelength confocal laser scanners (3)
- Ultra-deep sequencing systems

Bioinformatics:

- Computing cluster of UZH with 768 nodes
- Custom developed LIMS system for data analysis and data sharing
- Server-based data analysis pipelines for high-throughput genomics and proteomics data processing and analysis

Proteomics / Metabolomics:

- HPLC-coupled ion trap mass spectrometers (2)
- Hybrid ion trap - FT-ICR mass spectrometer
- Hybrid orbitrap mass spectrometers (2)
- MALDI-TOF/TOF mass spectrometers (3)
- ESI-Q-TOF mass spectrometers (2)
- MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer
- Amino acid analysis
- 2D-PAGE systems (2)
- Multi-wavelength confocal laser scanner
- Robotic spot picker

General Infrastructure:

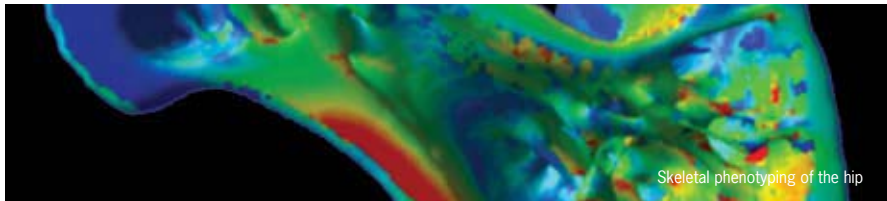
- Robotic liquid handling systems (3)
- HPLCs, fractionations systems, spectral readers

On average, more than 80 complex research projects are initiated per calendar year. As of April 2008, a total of 505 projects involving more than 900 researchers from 139 research institutes of ETH Zurich and University of Zurich plus external academic and industrial projects have been supported by the FGCZ.

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The BEST BioEngineering Cluster



The BioEngineering Cluster (BEC) is the bioengineering arm of an initiative undertaken by ETH Zurich to foster interdisciplinary research projects and coordinate interdepartmental teaching in the areas of BioEngineering, bioSystems and bioTechnology (BEST). The BEC consists of over 40 faculty members representing such diverse and different disciplines like physics, engineering, medicine, cell biology, chemistry, and mathematics.

The BioEngineering Cluster (BEC) provides a bridge between the converging fields of biology and engineering. Biologists have recently introduced molecular and cellular components into the realm of engineering, while engineers have brought methods of measurement, analysis, synthesis, modeling and control to the laboratories of molecular and cell biology. The convergence and the integration of disciplines with different histories, philosophies, and approaches will increase our basic knowledge about how living cells and tissues function as integrated units and how we can exploit this understanding for human advancement. Bioengineering aims to overcome the boundaries between technical and biological systems allowing varying forms of communication between the two systems. Nevertheless, the enormous complexity of biological systems requires substantial development in the quantification and modeling of biological systems and processes at the molecular, cellular, and organ level. In answering this challenge, the BEC is taking the application of novel principles and techniques of biomedical imaging, bioinstrumentation, biosensors, biomaterials, controlled drug delivery, and biomechanics to new levels of professionalism and ingenuity.

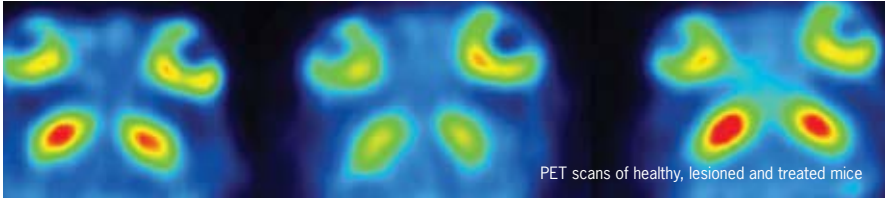
Key Competences

- The BEC is the bioengineering arm of the BEST initiative of ETH Zurich
- The BEC is designed to foster far-reaching interdisciplinary projects and to coordinate interdepartmental teaching programs in the expanding areas of bioengineering, biosystems, and biotechnology
- The BEC consists of over 40 faculty members representing such diverse disciplines as physics, engineering, medicine, cell biology, chemistry, and mathematics
- The BEC is the home of the Biomedical Engineering Master's Program
- The BEC provides stipends for graduate students to conduct their doctoral thesis work in BEC-affiliated laboratories

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Zurich Center for Imaging Science and Technology



The Zurich Center for Imaging Science and Technology (CIMST) aims to invent, develop and host cutting-edge imaging solutions. By implementing a comprehensive pallet of methods, CIMST creates a unique imaging platform, covering length scales from the atomic level to the geophysical dimension.

CIMST builds on the existing strong imaging related activities in the Greater Zurich Area. Since no single imaging technique can tackle a complex scientific problem, there is a great need for multi-modal imaging based on clever combinations of acoustic, optical, infrared, magnetic, radio-active, and mechanical interactions, as well as interactions with electrons, neutrons and x-rays. To create a fertile ground for imaging innovations, CIMST bundles competences from physics, chemistry, biology, material science, computer science, geophysics, as well as civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering.

A particular emphasis of CIMST is in the area of bio-medical imaging. While traditional biological research groups have focused on studies at a particular length scale, spanning the realms of the structure and function of biological organisms requires bridging the vast spatial and temporal divide between molecular processes and those of intact living organisms. With a broad scientific and technical composition, CIMST serves the Swiss biological and medical communities and helps educate young scientists who will one day lead the emerging academic and industrial sectors.

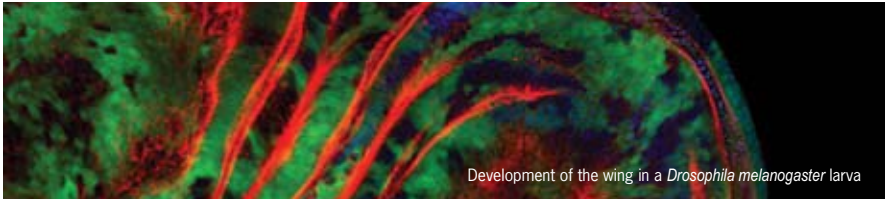
Key Competences

- CIMST is an umbrella network of ETH Zurich that supports and facilitates the exchange of know-how and facilities in imaging-related research
- An important goal of CIMST is to foster collaboration across disciplines and institutions
- CIMST involves more than 50 research groups with diverse backgrounds from ETH Zurich, the University of Zurich, Zurich University Hospital, the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) and the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research (EMPA)
- Currently, the educational program of CIMST includes an international Summer School on Multiscale Bio-medical Imaging as well as several other topical courses

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Zurich University of Applied Sciences



The School of Life Sciences and Facility Management in Wädenswil, part of the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), works in close cooperation with industry and business worlds at the interface of theory and practice. A wide array of expertise and infrastructural facilities are provided according to clients' individual needs.

At ZHAW Life Sciences encompass areas of scientific research with strong interdisciplinary emphasis and market orientation. Hence the primary focus lies on the practical application of scientific discoveries in the following fields:

Biotechnology

- Bioprocess Technology
- Molecular and Cell Biology
- Pharmaceutical Biotechnology

Chemistry

- Specialty Chemistry and Protein Cleaning
- Bioanalysis and Tissue Engineering
- Surface and Nanotechnology

Food Technology

- Food Safety and Technology
- Nutrition and Consumer Science
- Microbiology and Sensorics

Natural Resource Sciences

- Horticulture and Nature Management
- Landscape and Regional Development
- Urban Greening

ZHAW in Wädenswil is a Partner of:

- www.grow-waedenswil.ch
The founder organization «grow» is ideally situated in the rapidly growing environment around the ZHAW. It is the ideal location for start-ups in the Life Sciences.

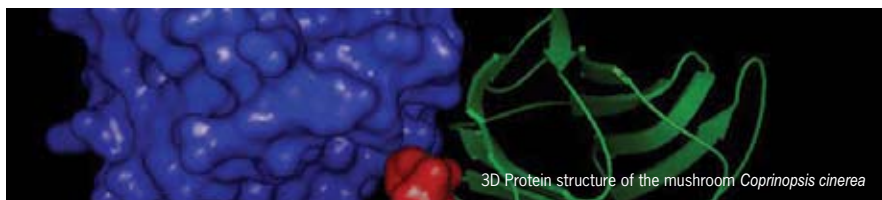
grow [grəʊ]

- www.biotechnet.ch and www.swissfoodnet.ch

Contact Information

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Start-Up Promotion in and Around Zurich



The increasing number of life science start-ups is impressive evidence for the high entrepreneurial spirit that characterizes the Greater Zurich Area. Dedicated support from a network of institutions, incubators and clusters of established companies combine to give Zurich its unrivalled attraction for both exceptional research and unmatched potential for business opportunities.

ETH transfer and Unictetra, the two universities' offices for technology transfer, build an important link between science and business to support spin-off companies at the universities.

An array of additional organizations supports the entrepreneurial spirit:

- CTI Start-up program and Venturelab, both from the Swiss government, as well as the regional initiative Business Tools actively support and promote innovative high-potential start-ups
- Venture is a bi-yearly business plan competition organized by McKinsey and ETH Zurich
- VI Partners is a Swiss venture capital company that supports promising start-ups with capital, coaching, consulting and networks
- Well-organized incubator facilities, such as Biotech Center Zurich and biotop Life Science Incubator, enable excellent and dedicated infrastructures for life science start-ups

A clear upward trend is observed in the number of start-ups in life sciences, encouraged by the different support programs, as well as the fact that more than 80% of all spin-offs from ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich survive the first 5 years.

Key Competences

- ETH transfer, Unictetra, CTI Start-up, Venturelab, Business Tools, Venture and VI partners are excellent examples of supporting programs for start-ups
- 27 Spin-offs were founded in 2007 by researchers from ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich
- Glycart (Roche), Prionics, Kuros and Cytos are examples of very successful life science start-ups
- Very high spin-off survival rate: more than 80% of ETH Zurich and University of Zurich spin-offs survive the first 5 years

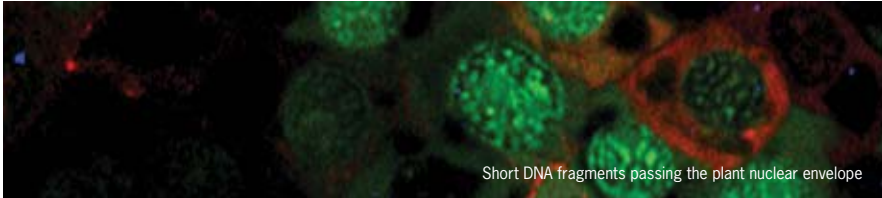
Contact Information

www.transfer.ethz.ch
www.unictetra.ch
www.venture.ch
www.biotechcenter.ch

www.spinoff.ethz.ch
www.spinoff.ch
www.ventureincubator.ch
www.technopark.ch

www.ctistartup.ch
www.venturelab.ch
www.btools.ch
www.grow-waedenswil.ch

ETH Transfer



ETH transfer is the dedicated technology transfer office at ETH Zurich. Linking science and business, ETH transfer is an excellent entry point for industry executives and investors at ETH Zurich to conceive collaborations, to license ETH technologies or to establish contacts with spin-off and start-up companies.

The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, ETH Zurich, is a leading global university dedicated to research in science and engineering with a particularly strong focus on life sciences. Its technology transfer office, ETH transfer, supports industrial collaborations, pioneering inventions and patent applications, the licensing of ETH technologies, and lends assistance to early stage spin-off companies. Due to these efforts, ETH Zurich boasts an impressive five-year track record with more than 1200 new research agreements, over 400 patent applications and more than 50 spin-offs. In 2007 alone, a record number of 21 spin-offs were founded. More than 25% of them launched operations in pharmaceuticals and biotechnology, chemical processes and compounds, medical devices, diagnostics, and sensors and analytics.

Glycart (Roche), Cytos, Aicon and GlycoVaxyn are some excellent examples of successful ETH Zurich spin-offs in the life sciences. In the Greater Zurich Area, a high entrepreneurial spirit is key and continuously encouraged through various inter-academic and -economical initiatives and programs. One recent and prominent example is Venture 2008, a business plan competition organized by McKinsey and ETH Zurich in order to support young entrepreneurs in successfully starting their own business.

Key Competences

- ETH transfer is the entry point for external partners at ETH Zurich
- ETH transfer promotes and facilitates relations with industry partners
- ETH transfer provides support with inventions, patent applications and licensing of ETH Zurich technologies
- ETH transfer is actively engaged in technology transfer to new businesses, and offers spin-offs consultancy and access to business networks
- ETH transfer boasts an impressive five-year track record with more than 1200 new research agreements, over 400 patent applications and more than 50 spin-offs

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Unitectra, Inc.



Unitectra is the technology transfer office of the Universities of Zurich and Bern and their associated hospitals. Our staff, an interdisciplinary team of licensing professionals with scientific, industrial and legal backgrounds, manage over 200 active licenses and closes more than 1'000 research, consulting and licensing contracts every year.

Unitectra is the entry point for industrial partners who seek to collaborate with some of the top academic research groups in Switzerland. On behalf of the Universities of Zurich and Bern, Unitectra negotiates research contracts with industry, ranging from transfer of biological research materials to multi-million Swiss Francs projects.

Unitectra also evaluates, markets and licenses the technologies of the two universities and manages the related IP portfolio. The mission is to commercialize university technologies for the public benefit and to have the Universities partake in their commercial success.

Covering the entire spectrum from innovative basic research to clinical development in patients, the University of Zurich offers biotechnology, pharma and medical device companies a wide range of collaboration opportunities. Main areas of research and research clusters comprise neurosciences, systems biology, functional genomics, structural biology, as well as plant science.

Key Competences

- Unitectra is the entry point for companies seeking collaboration with institutes/clinics of the Universities of Zurich and Bern
- Unitectra develops fast and flexible contractual solutions for any type of research collaborations
- Unitectra is responsible for patenting and licensing of innovative new technologies of the Universities and University Hospitals
- Unitectra has a portfolio of over 250 patent families, more than 200 active licenses and over 60 spin-off companies

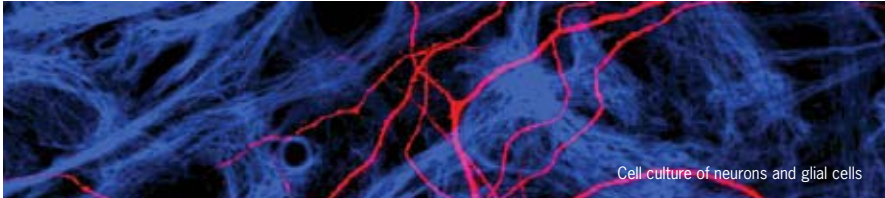
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www.neuroscience.uzh.ch
www.structuralbiology.uzh.ch

www.imcr.uzh.ch/systembio
www.plantscience.uzh.ch

swiTT – Swiss Technology Transfer Association



Driving Innovation Through Collaboration With Swiss Academia

Swiss research universities are adept and attractive partners for the life science industry. Principal reasons for this are the availability of top-notch academic researchers, flexible and lean industrial collaboration, and last but not least, many possibilities of sophisticated technology transfer. Only recently, Switzerland earned the highest marks in both basic research and knowledge transfer between industry and academia, according to the IMD competitiveness yearbook 2008. The Swiss Technology Transfer Association (swiTT) strives to further optimise the smooth exchange and collaboration between industry and academia.

Among other initiatives, swiTT runs «swiTTlist», a unique web portal that aggregates recent technological innovations from Swiss universities. swiTTlist increases the visibility of new academic technologies and helps interested companies to screen for future licensing opportunities.

Contact Information

www.switt.ch



Innovation Promotion Agency CTI

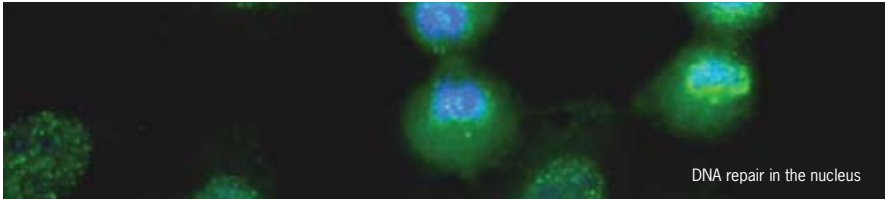
Bridging the Gap Between the Lab and the Market

CTI is the Swiss Innovation Promotion Agency that brings «Science to Market». With funding and endorsements of CHF 532 millions for the period from 2008 to 2011, CTI promotes market-oriented R&D collaborations between business and academia. For example, it provides funding for 1,000 research salaries per year. CTI Start-up supports the launch of high-potential companies with good prospects for international growth. Bridging the gap between the lab and the market, CTI furthers those innovation processes that ultimately drive the economy. Businesses enjoy two main benefits of CTI's work: they can make good use of research results and get access to the supply of qualified, market-oriented R&D professionals. CTI is also funding the KTT (Knowledge and Technology Transfer) initiatives that take place all over Switzerland and share the goal to stimulate, motivate and increase exchange and interactions between academia and industry.

Contact Information

www.kti-cti.ch
www.ctistartup.ch
www.cti-invest.ch
www.whoch6.ch

Biotech Center Zurich – biotop Life Science Incubator



The Biotech Center Zurich hosts a promising array of life science companies at different stages of their development. The center is providing excellent infrastructure and supporting services for early-stage and well-established life science start-ups.

The Biotech Center Zurich is providing sophisticated customized infrastructures for life science companies. The Biotech Center Zurich offers GMP production units, animal facilities or biosafety laboratories. On the premises of its business incubator «biotop» well-equipped and affordable laboratory and office space awaits up and coming start-up companies.

Situated at the heart of the Biotech Center Zurich the biotop Life Science Incubator is a neighbor of established start-ups such as Cytos, ESBATech, Glycart and Prionics. These companies are eager to contribute their entrepreneurial expertise to assist in the development of new sustainable life science companies in the area. The Biotech Center Zurich is also available to facilitate partnerships between Zurich's growing life science cluster and the city's academic research centers.

Biotech Center Zurich is easily accessible by car, bus or train. Downtown Zurich and Zurich Airport are in immediate vicinity and close proximity.

The winning combination of established life science companies, academic centers of excellence, first class investors, and a high quality of life makes Zurich the ideal location for any company seeking to leave its mark in the life science field.

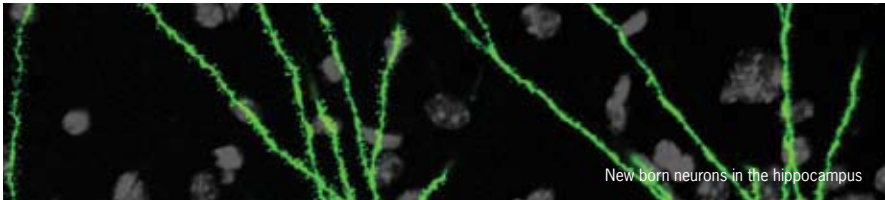
Key Competences

- Provides full support for start-up life science companies
- Is Zurich's hot spot for established life science companies
- Is just minutes away from universities, airport, downtown Zurich

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www.biotechcenter.ch

Financing Life Sciences in Switzerland



Life science companies have raised more money in Switzerland than anywhere else thanks to the strong focus of the Swiss financial marketplace on the healthcare sector. The high concentration of biotech and medtech companies in Switzerland (highest per-capita concentration worldwide) is supported by a long-standing pharmaceutical industry in which the financial industry has been involved from the beginning.

Switzerland: an Incredible Platform

In the last ten years Switzerland has built an incredible biotech and medtech platform: During each stage of their development, health-care companies have access to the necessary infrastructure, human resources and capital. Although there are currently more later-stage companies seeking funds, various initiatives are in place for early-stage companies. For example, Biotech Center Zurich helps early-stage companies to raise funds, and there are also several business-angel clubs providing support. In other words, there is substantial early-stage funding available for companies with unique science and technology, significant commercial potential and compelling intellectual property.

Strong Biotech Financing

Switzerland is one of the best places in Europe to start and finance new biotech and pharma companies. Both on the private and on the public investment front, Swiss-based biotech companies attract significant funds. For example, in 2007 major foreign investors included Sofinnova Partners (GlycoVaxyn), NGN Capital (Nitec Pharma) and Clarus Ventures (ESBATEch). Swiss investment houses participated as well, including BB Biotech, BZ Bank, Biomedinvest, Global Life Sciences, Index Ventures, HBM BioVentures and the Novartis Venture Fund. Furthermore, Swiss biotech funds (EUR 2.82 billion) dominate the European market: 10 out of the top 25 European biotech funds are located in Switzerland.

An International Marketplace for Initial Public Offerings

The Swiss financial marketplace offers fertile ground for growth and prosperity. Particularly in the area of asset management, Swiss banks are global market leaders. The total volume of all client deposits stands at roughly EUR 3,000 billion, of which more than two-thirds are invested in shares and equity funds. Private as well as publicly listed companies benefit from this concentration of liquidity. Particularly when it comes to raising capital in the public markets, investment banks and consortia have enormous financing and placing power.

SWX Swiss Exchange



The strong focus on the life science sector is also reflected at SWX Swiss Exchange. Every year since 2004, SWX has accounted for Europe's largest biotech IPOs in terms of money raised on the day of the IPO. Thanks to the dominance of the life science sector, investors in the Swiss market are experienced and well funded. Due to their background in the sector, they have wide experience in evaluating complex business models and the challenges associated with developing biopharmaceutical products. They are therefore more eager to invest in such companies and have created a stable yet vibrant market environment and growing demand for life science stocks.

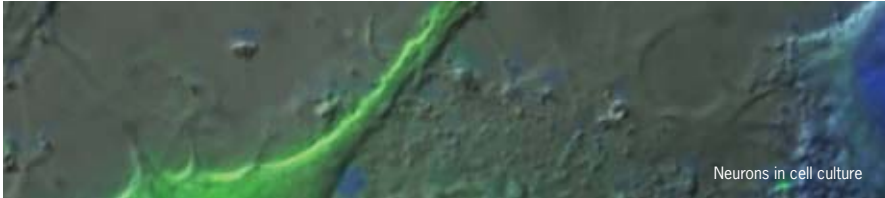
SWX Swiss Exchange: an Overview

- Continental Europe's largest and most international marketplace in terms of market capitalisation and provenance of listed life-science companies
- Around one third of the total market capitalisation on SWX (approximately EUR 225 billion) is attributable to companies active in this sector
- Multilingual and multicultural Swiss investors with a strong focus on life sciences
- 4 out of the top 10 biotech funds and 10 out of the top 25 biotech funds in Europe that invest in listed companies are located in Switzerland
- A small number of yearly IPOs, special sector indices (SXI®) and an above-average number of analysts covering the market ensure high visibility
- Market-oriented listing regime
- Acceptance of IFRS, US GAAP and other internationally recognised accounting standards
- Short communication paths – high concentration of investors in a small number of locations

Contact Information

SWX Swiss Exchange
 Issuer & Investor Relations
 Selnaustrasse 30, PO Box, 8021 Zurich / Switzerland
ipo@swx.com

SwissBiotech and SwissMedtech



Swiss Biotech and Swiss Medtech represent a joint marketing effort to form an alliance of the regional industry clusters BaselArea, Bio Alps, Biopolo Ticino, and Greater Zurich Area. Further members of this marketing alliance are SWX Swiss Exchange, the Swiss Biotech Association and the Medical Cluster. The SwissBiotech® and SwissMedtech® brands were created in order to promote a uniform image of the Swiss biotech and medtech industry at home and abroad alike.

Among the many reasons why Switzerland is an attractive location for life science companies, perhaps the most compelling is the unique density of hospitals, universities, public research institutions, industry representatives and investors, their high-quality exchange and high levels of connectedness.

At the root of this phenomenon is a formal network: SwissBiotech and SwissMedtech. SwissBiotech and SwissMedtech promote and facilitate the interactions between the many different kinds of life science related companies, institutions and organizations. Together they generate a dynamic environment that excels in innovation, knowledge sharing and the constant creation of spin-offs from industry and academia.

Contact Information

www.swissbiotech.org
www.swiss-medtech.org



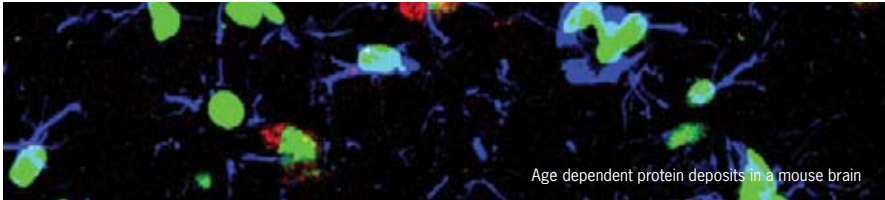
Swiss Biotech Association

Swiss Biotech Association (SBA) is the national industry association of small and medium-sized enterprises active in all areas of biotechnology. Founded in March 1998, it is represented by more than 180 companies today and used as an extended networking platform by multinational companies active in the biotech sector. Activities of SBA member companies span the diverse sectors of biotechnology including pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, agriculture, food, environmental biotechnology, and specialty chemicals. The SBA is also in charge of managing the national Cluster for Biotechnology, a forum on which the Swiss life science regions, life science finance and exchange (SWX), and major industry players join their efforts to promote Switzerland as a key location for biotechnology.

Contact Information

www.swissbiotechassociation.ch

Toolpoint for Life Science



Toolpoint is a vertical cluster initiative for Life Science Instrument Companies (LSIC) with a special focus on «liquid handling». Toolpoint is active in the areas of technology transfer, innovation, commercial cooperation (in non-competitive fields), acquiring and concentrating competence as well as in location marketing.

Toolpoint is a meeting place for the Life Science Instruments Industry. It represents about 50% of the global market share in «liquid handling» and is based in Hombrechtikon (Zurich), Switzerland. Toolpoint was founded in 2003 by the LSIC in the Zurich region to actively promote the development of the up-and-coming Life Science instrument branch and to take advantage of the technical know-how available at local universities. Toolpoint primarily addresses the needs of its industry members and works according to the Pull Principle.

- Toolpoint generates benefits by combining competencies across member companies with common interests in order to increase their competitiveness by reducing costs, increasing efficiency and enabling inter-company projects
- Boosts innovation by actively promoting technology transfer
- Initiates and coordinates platforms, projects and expert groups in order to implement requirements. Specialists from expert groups and project teams are appointed by the participating companies
- Opens doors for start-ups, spin-offs and newcomers and facilitates their rapid entry into the market

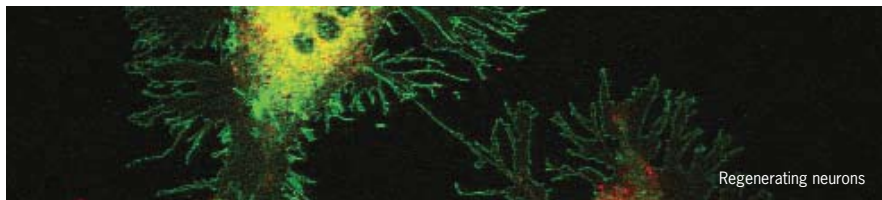
Key Competences

- Toolpoint is a vertical Cluster initiative focused on liquid handling companies
- It works according to the Pull Principle: its overriding objective is to fulfil members' needs
- It is a network that covers about 50% of the worldwide market share in liquid handling
- It currently represents over 25 globally active companies with a turnover of about 4 billion US\$ and 20,000 employees
- It accelerates the transfer of knowledge and technology and helps to strengthen the competitive position of its members

Contact Information

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 peter.schleiffer@toolpoint.ch, www.toolpoint.ch

Your Biotech Partners in the Greater Zurich Area



More and more companies add to the excitement of the Greater Zurich Area's life sciences scene. Below and on the next pages you will find prime examples of the entrepreneurial spirit in your local biotech and life sciences niches.



www.amvac.ch



www.covalx.com



www.covagen.com



www.cytos.com



www.esbatech.com



www.glycart.com



www.glycovaxyn.com



www.kuros.ch



www.molecularpartners.com



www.neurimmune.com



www.prionics.com

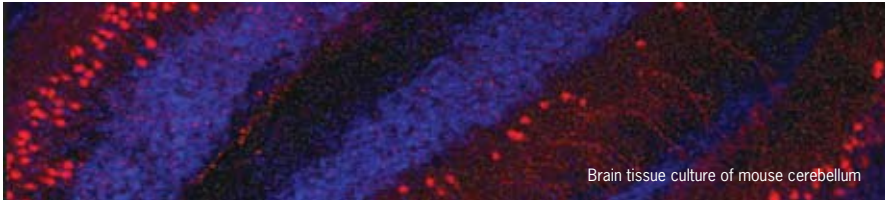


www.redbiotec.ch

Haven't Found the Company You Were Looking For?

Make sure you checked www.swisslifesciences.com – a comprehensive database of life science companies in Switzerland!

Highlights of a Fast-Growing Industry



In few years, the Greater Zurich Area has grown into one of the strongest and most spirited life sciences clusters in Europe. Its high density of universities, hospitals and research labs combined with the entrepreneurial spirit and business-savvy has turned the Greater Zurich Area into a hotbed of research & development in the life sciences.

Today, Fortune 100 and start-up companies in biotech, medtech and pharma alike continue to set up shop – or their international headquarters – in the Greater Zurich Area.

AMGEN

Arena

Baxter

biogen idec

Cilag

ECOLAB

Nobel Biocare
making you smile™

novo nordisk

NYCOMED

Pfizer

PHONAK

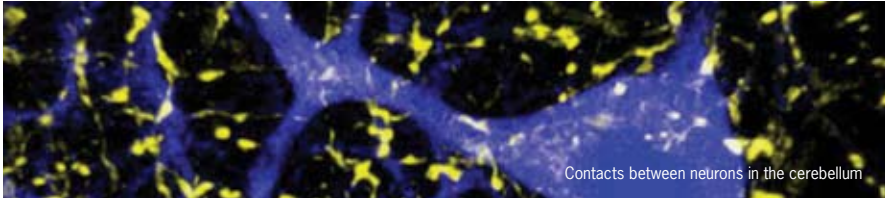
smith&nephew

SYNTHES

THE MEDICINES COMPANY

zimmer

A Prime Business Location for Life Science Companies



With 148 biotech companies and 72 biotech suppliers, Switzerland boasts the world's highest per capita biotech density. In 2007, the Swiss biotech industry generated a turnover of more than CHF 7 billion and had a workforce of over 14,000. Located in the heart of Europe, the Swiss biotech industry is in close proximity to other important biotech areas and as such a preferred gateway to the EU markets.

The Human Capital Advantage

Access to a skilled labor force is among the most important factors when relocating or starting a business. Switzerland has long been a magnet for highly skilled, quality-conscious, multilingual workers.

Numerous recent international surveys found that Switzerland offers:

- The most competitive economy in Europe, second worldwide to the US (World Economic Forum 2007-2008)
- Excellent R&D environment, ranking 1st both in basic research and in knowledge transfer between industry and academia (IMD 2007)
- The highest overall quality of living in the world, with Zurich on top for the fifth consecutive time (Mercer 2007)
- The most attractive business environment in Europe to high-skilled people (IMD 2007)
- Managers with the highest international experience (IMD 2007)

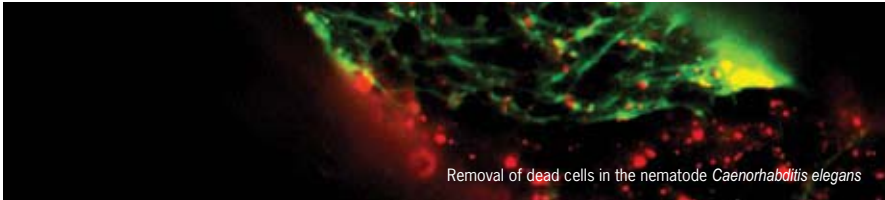
The innovation-friendly Swiss environment attracts high-quality academics and professionals from the US and other countries. Together with the excellent research environment and superb infrastructure, Switzerland and Greater Zurich Area are a prime business location for life science companies.

Greater Zurich Area AG, a Swiss non-profit investment promotion agency, informs potential investors about Greater Zurich Area as a business location. Investors are provided with first-class and comprehensive support for setting up their own operation in Switzerland in order to profit from this prime business location.

Contact Information

info@greaterzuricharea.ch, www.greaterzuricharea.ch

A Prime Business Location for International Operations



Switzerland and the Greater Zurich Area are situated in the heart of Europe and offer international corporations and businesses some of the best operating conditions available. Highly attractive tax structures and a liberal labor law, plus a greatly qualified and specialized workforce suggest that Switzerland and the Greater Zurich Area are particularly suited to serve as a central gateway to the European and global markets.

With an emphasis on high value creation rather than volume, the Greater Zurich Area is an ideal Swiss location where to centralize and consolidate vital business activities such as international management and headquarters' functions in a cost-effective way. Switzerland and the Greater Zurich Area are setting the benchmarks in virtually every crucial area such as general level of service, technological and logistical infrastructure, education, research, knowledge, culture, labor law and ethics. This is why business in the Greater Zurich Area is truly thriving.

In addition, the liberal Swiss tax law holds sophisticated tax models for certain company structures ready. These privileged tax regimes apply to multi-national companies with a clearly defined business purpose in Switzerland, usually in compliance with their global or European business strategy. For company structures such as international management headquarters, holding companies or finance branches, privileged tax regimes can reduce an ordinary effective tax rate of 16 - 25.7% to below 8%.

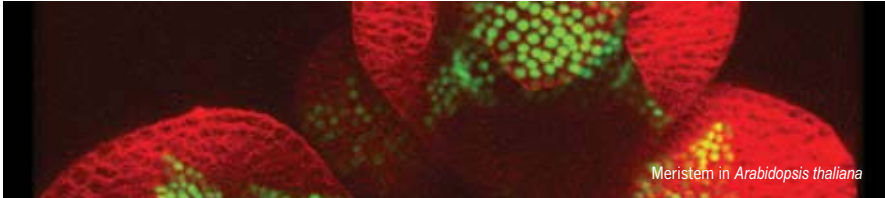
Benefits of the Greater Zurich Area at a Glance:

- Central location in the heart of Europe, ideal gateway to the European marketplace
- First-rate international connectivity to the rest of Europe, by air, road and rail
- Attractive tax models
- Highly qualified and multilingual workforce
- English is an unofficial second language and standard business idiom in most corporations
- Switzerland has one of the most liberal labor laws in Europe, ease of doing business
- Local talent with excellent international management skills
- Great international schools and best quality of life in the world make it easy to attract and retain international managers

Contact Information

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Greater Zurich Area AG



At the Greater Zurich Area AG, a Swiss non-profit investment promotion agency, we facilitate easy expansion and relocation of international companies into our business friendly region in and around Zurich. The Greater Zurich Area is the economic center of Switzerland and the ideal launching pad for your corporate operations in Switzerland and Europe.

Our Services

The Greater Zurich Area AG, a founding member of SwissBiotech and SwissMedtech, is your access point to the Swiss life science industry. At Greater Zurich Area AG, we advise international companies free of charge from the inception to the successful launch of their operations in the Greater Zurich Area.

Because of our public-private structure, we are incorporated into a wide array of networks. That's why we're in an excellent position to assist you with contacting Switzerland-based companies and get you in touch with the relevant investors, experts, scholars, biotech parks and technology transfer agencies in the life science sector. In addition, we offer a wide range of services in collaboration with regional economic development agencies and our numerous partners in the business and the academic worlds, in research and development, as well as in culture and tourism.

Our Experts

- Offer free location evaluation services to international companies considering the establishment of a Swiss operation
- Provide information about the Greater Zurich Area as a business location
- Help to identify suitable and relevant contacts
- Answer questions about setting up a business, market situations, taxes, property, work permits, staffing and financing
- Have special know-how in life science, information and communications technology, high tech and headquarters structures

Contact Information

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Patrick Sieber, PhD, and Prof. Ueli Grossniklaus, Inst. of Plant Biology, University of Zurich

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the many people from all academic institutions, competence centers and different organizations who helped us to create this brochure, including the «Life Science Art» exhibitors for allowing us to publish their pictures in this brochure.

Lukas Huber and Katja Hofmann, Greater Zurich Area AG
Adrian Stettler, Economic Development, Canton of Zurich
Mario Jenni, Biotech Center Zurich
Isabel Klusman, Life Science Zurich
Daniel Gisi, Unitectra
Marjan Kraak, ETH transfer

© Life Science Zurich, published in May 2008.

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8057 Zurich / Switzerland

www.lifescience-zurich.ch