



MatTek Corp. Expands Again

Increased Tissue Engineering Production, R&D Drives 50% Lab Space Expansion

November 8, 2002 - [MatTek Corp.](#), Ashland, MA, USA, today announced that it has signed a multi-year lease for an additional 5,500 square feet of laboratory space in the Ashland Technology Center.

This 50% expansion over existing lab space is being driven by the dual needs of increased production space for MatTek's in vitro skin, eye, and airway tissue models used as alternatives to animal-based product testing, and increased R&D laboratory facilities for research into new tissue models and new applications for these models, including drug discovery/development applications.

Only two years ago MatTek doubled its lab space in the Ashland Technology Center.

"MatTek has been in the tissue engineering business for over a decade, " stated John Sheasgreen, MatTek's President. "Much of the work in the early years involved the sale of not only the product, but also of the concept of substituting in vitro tissue models for traditional animal-based test procedures. About 3-4 years ago we began to see growth in this segment start to accelerate due to increased acceptance of this concept. That growth has continued through to today, and we are pleased to report that we continue to see that rate of growth accelerating. This has led to the need to significantly expand our lab space once again."

Asked what differentiates MatTek from its competitors, Mitch Klausner, VP, Scientific Affairs, said it could be summarized in one word – reproducibility. "MatTek saw the true potential for this market early on and realized that product reproducibility would be a key factor to long-term success. This focus led to MatTek becoming the industry leader in lot-to-lot reproducibility. It is also the main reason that MatTek is now the only commercial provider of organotypic in vitro tissue models approved for use by both U.S. and European regulators."

About MatTek - MatTek Corp., founded in 1985 by two MIT professors, is a global industry leader in tissue engineering. The company manufactures human cell-based three-dimensional organotypic in vitro models for use in product development/efficacy, claims substantiation, safety assessment, drug discovery/development, and target organ research applications in the Pharmaceutical, Biotech, Cosmetics, Personal Care and Household Products industries. The current in vitro product offering includes EpiDerm™, MelanoDerm™, EpiOcular™, and EpiAirway™. MatTek's tissue models are used for applications as diverse as skin irritation testing and transdermal drug delivery studies.

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