Press Release

PI-123-2009 **November 2009**

Nexxor GmbH develops knowledge-oriented information systems

Semantic technologies enable future-focused knowledge management

(Stuttgart, November) – Stuttgart-based Nexxor GmbH uses its topicWorks platform as a basis for developing "knowledge-oriented" information systems specifically for the pharmaceutical, biotech and life science sectors. These standardised software systems are no longer based solely on data and documents. They employ an innovative concept to map the meanings and semantic relationships of content in a flexible way, similar to processes used by the Semantic Web.

Entrepreneurs looking to secure lasting competitiveness need to adapt to the vast changes which make today's business world less industrial and more involved with information and data processing. They must optimise their information and knowledge processing procedures, since these are now key production factors critical to their success. Nexxor GmbH, founded in the STERN BioRegion in 2008, offers innovative software systems – in particular for the life science and pharmaceutical sectors – for managing knowledge-intensive data and performing complex tasks based on its topicWorks platform. For example, knowledge-oriented information systems are intended for use in clinical studies, collections of active substances or drug information systems. The core element in Nexxor's software is to amass concrete knowledge that is not tied to specific individuals. In drug development in particular, which often spans a period of ten years or more, information acquires added value over time. Development times could be significantly shortened simply by processing knowledge and results from previous investigations and studies and making it available for all users in an understandable form. Conventional data-oriented systems are not able to determine meaning and specialist relationships within stored content. Nexxor GmbH addresses this shortcoming with its knowledge-oriented technology. Its software systems are based on semantic standards and work in a similar way to the Semantic Web, which aims to link together web-based information at the level of meaning.

Although knowledge-oriented systems, like conventional systems, consist of three levels – data model, database and user interface – they are much more flexible, thanks to the innovative modelling of information structures, a standardised data model and adaptive user interfaces. Use of a standardised data model simplifies the gathering of content from various systems. This enables users to react quickly and flexibly to changes without having to carry out time-consuming and costly modifications on databases and their associated structures.

Dr. Gerhard Weber, one of the three managing directors of Nexxor GmbH, is in no doubt that meaning-based information systems will replace conventional application-centred systems: “Users working with topicWorks solutions do not need to worry about individual information systems, their operation or the meaning and integration of content. Instead, they can concentrate on the issues at hand and reduce online search times substantially.”

Dr. Klaus Eichenberg, Managing Director of BioRegio STERN Management GmbH, is in firm agreement: “Employees need to be able to focus on their tasks instead of spending most of their time grappling with data management. An innovative information system such as that from Nexxor creates a genuine win-win situation for both companies and staff.”

zk-rik

Box:

The software systems from Nexxor GmbH are based on semantic standards, with information being linked at the level of meaning. For example, in the case of an entry on “hedgehog”, the software recognises from its context that the information relates to the protein rather than the small mammal.

About BioRegio STERN:

BioRegio STERN Management GmbH is a skill-sharing network, providing a help and advice centre for founders of new businesses, entrepreneurs and researchers in the biotechnology sector in the region comprising Stuttgart, Tübingen, Esslingen, Reutlingen and Neckar-Alb in Germany. BioRegio STERN promotes cooperation between such different disciplines as medicine, biochemical engineering, sensor technology, dietetics, biochemical analysis and bioinformatics. Key areas of focus are regenerative medicine and medical technology.

BioRegio STERN represents the interests of founders of new businesses, entrepreneurs and researchers when dealing with the political sector, the media and associations, coordinates economic promotional activities and marketing and provides advice for grant applications and corporate financing, all backed up with efficient press and public relations work.

BioRegio STERN is supported by the Stuttgart and Neckar-Alb regional authorities and the municipal authorities of Stuttgart, Tübingen, Esslingen and Reutlingen. The Managing Director, Dr. Klaus Eichenberg, is a molecular and cell biologist and investment analyst.

About Nexxor:
Nexxor GmbH – founded in the STERN BioRegion in 2008 – is an owner-run software house for knowledge-oriented solutions based on semantic standards. The three company founders and managing directors Dr. Gerhard Weber, Ralf Eilbracht and Stefan Kesberg provide companies, institutions and government authorities involved in the life science sector with support in making better use of available knowledge and related information and discovering new relationships between the two. Nexxor GmbH uses its own topicWorks platform to design, shape and develop flexible software systems that depict data and associated expertise. The company employs new semantic technologies, including the particularly important ISO Topic Maps series of standards.

Publisher: BioRegio STERN Management GmbH, Friedrichstrasse 10, 70174 Stuttgart, Germany, +49-711-8703540, info@bioregio-stern.de
Editor: Zeeb Kommunikation, Hohenheimer Strasse 58a, 70184 Stuttgart, Germany, +49-711-6070719, info@zeeb.info, www.zeeb.info
Nexxor GmbH: Dr. Gerhard Weber, Vollmoellerstrasse 11, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany +49-711-91260466, info@nexxor.de