



Foundation for the promotion of alternatives to animal testing

Stiftung zur Förderung der Erforschung von Ersatz- und Ergänzungsmethoden
zur Einschränkung von Tierversuchen

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Activity Report 2009



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SET Activity Report 2009

Supported projects

In 2009 four ongoing projects were supported by the set foundation. All of them have been started or approved during the previous year. As all available financial means had been used by the support of these projects, no further applications were approved. The acceptance of new applications was discontinued until the summer of 2010 to allow potential candidates to find support somewhere else.

In 2009 the following ongoing projects were supported:

- Tumor-induced angiogenesis studied in confrontation cultures: A new model for screening of anti-angiogenic substances
Prof. Dr. Heinrich Sauer, Universität Giessen and Prof. Dr. Maria Wartenberg, GKSS Forschungszentrum Teltow
- In vitro model of rheumatoid joint destruction
Prof. Dr. Thomas Pap and Dr. Uwe Hansen, Universität Münster
- Improved genotoxicity tests with the Phenion full thickness skin model
Dr. Kerstin Reisinger, Phenion GmbH & Co. KG
- Development of an Reverse Transcriptase Real Time-PCR-assay for the detection of Clostridium botulinum type A, B, E und F neurotoxin-production in foods as an alternative method to the mouse bioassay
Prof. Dr. Michael Bülte, Universität Giessen

Further activities supported:

- SET supports the periodical ALTEX (alternatives to animal testing, a quarterly magazine for new ways in biomedical sciences).

Participation in EU Research Projects

ForInViTox

Together with the Spanish organisations REMA (Red Española para el Desarrollo de Métodos Alternativos) and IVTIP (In Vitro Testing Industrial Platform) and with the Swedish consultancy company Expertrådet AB, the set foundation continued the EU's 5th Framework Programme project ForInViTox (Forum for Researchers and Regulators to meet manufacturers of toxicology test methods). As the last part of this project a forum was organized, dedicated to provide a market place for developers, producers and end users of such test systems. The forum took place at Stockholm, Sweden. It was a great success. The ideas and experiences gained by the organisation of this forum regarding the knowledge transfer will be included into a white book for future EU activities.



START UP

The EU-project START UP was started by the umbrella organisation *ecopa*. This project tries to identify bottlenecks in the pharmaceutical industry preventing the implementation of the reduction, refinement and replacement of animal experiments. Three expert meetings to identify the main topics were organised to provide starting points for the following workshops, one for each of the three Rs. The third workshop regarding “Replacement” in autumn 2009 was organised by the *set* foundation and the Hungarian platform *hucopa* at Budapest, Hungary. The workshop was well attended, the results will be summarised by *ecopa*.

Meetings

In 2009, only one meeting of the foundation board took place. Due to the financial limitation no other meetings were assumed to be necessary. Notwithstanding active and frequent contact was held by phone and e-mail.

Income from donations

Like in the previous years, the income of the foundation consisted entirely of donations from the four participating industry associations.