

Automated cell culturing and analysis

Tecan and innovatis are working closely together under a new collaborative agreement to jointly market their robotic cell culture workstations and cell detection devices. The collaboration concentrates on Cellavista, innovatis' new automated image-based platform technology for cellular analysis, which has bright field and fluorescent capabilities and can process microplates, microscope slides and robot-friendly cell culture flasks. Cellavista, in combination with Tecan's flexible Freedom EVO® platform, allows automation of a wide range of cell-related processes including cell line development, cell proliferation, stem cell differentiation and various cell-based assays.

"We have already had a long, successful partnership with Tecan, and have worked very closely with Tecan application specialists on several customer projects," said Michael Grohmann, Chief Executive Officer at innovatis. "Most Cellavista customers ask about full process automation and have shown great interest in Tecan's automated solutions. They readily recognize the advantages of having a liquid handling and cell culture system that complements the detection capabilities of the Cellavista."



Matthew Robin, Senior Vice President and Head of Liquid Handling and Robotics at Tecan, added: "The Cellavista has excellent image quality, fast reading speeds and versatile image recognition software, perfectly complementing our automated handling systems. We already have fully operational installations at several sites, for applications in stem cell differentiation, cell quality control and cell line development. I am delighted to continue Tecan's fruitful association with innovatis, helping us to offer our customers a powerful package for cell-based applications."



The Freedom EVO workstation, combined with innovatis' Cellavista automated image-based platform technology, allows full automation of a wide range of cell-related processes.

LabAutomation 2009



Tecan enjoyed another successful exhibition at the ALA's LabAutomation conference in January 2009 in Palm Springs, California. This annual gathering brings together world leaders in laboratory automation, highlighting new developments in the global

community and providing manufacturers with an opportunity to showcase their latest systems. Among the new Tecan products on display were the Cavro® Centris Pump and Cavro Omni Robot.

Tecan Cavro OEM components offer instrument developers a comprehensive hardware and software infrastructure for liquid handling applications, for use throughout the design process to accelerate development of new systems. In a workshop to help instrument designers take full advantage of these modular solutions, Tecan Systems invited existing OEM customers – BioDot and Merit Automation – to share their experiences of using Tecan Cavro products. David Wold, a senior product



l to r: Sean Leu (Software Manager, Tecan Systems), Drew Miller (Merit LabAutomation), Tony Lemmo (Vice President R&D, Bio-Dot Inc.) and David Wold (Senior Product Manager, Tecan Systems), with the new Tecan Cavro products at LabAutomation 2009.

manager at Tecan Systems, explained: "The workshop gave automation designers an opportunity to see how Tecan Cavro modules can help get their systems to the market faster, with BioDot and Merit Automation offering alternative perspectives and highlighting the potential advantages of our products. Overall the show was a great success, and we hope to be back for another workshop next year."