

## Forbion Capital Partners Invests EUR 2.4 Million in 2nd Closing of Series A Financing Round for Rigontec GmbH.

Munich & Naarden, Germany & The Netherlands, March 24, 2015 - Forbion Capital Partners (FCP), a Dutch life-sciences venture capital firm, announces today that it has joined the 2nd closing of Rigontec's Series A financing round together with Sunstone Capital from Denmark, bringing the total capital raised in the round to EUR 14.25 Million. Holger Reithinger from Forbion Capital Partners has joined Rigontec's Board of Directors.

Rigontec is a privately held biopharmaceutical company launched in January 2014 as a spin-out of the Institute for Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Pharmacology at the University Hospital of the University of Bonn, Germany. The company develops RNA-based immunotherapeutics for the treatment of cancer and viral diseases. The novel approach is based on a proprietary mechanism that engages the body's anti-viral immune program, leading to the destruction of diseased cells and the induction of a lasting immune memory.

The proceeds of the Series A financing round will be used to progress Rigontec's proprietary lead drug candidate into pre-clinical and clinical proof-of-concept studies.

Holger Reithinger, General Partner of Forbion said: "Over the last years, I have closely followed the ground-breaking scientific work of Prof. Hartmann and Prof. Hornung. Their work has culminated in a novel approach that mimics a viral infection and thereby actively induces anti-tumor immunity, both innate as well as adaptive. In effect, the tumor is turned into its own vaccine. The Rigontec approach thereby delivers in a broader sense on the promise of a personalized cancer treatment."

Dr. Christian Schetter, CEO of Rigontec, said: "We are very excited by the tremendous interest we have seen in our proprietary RIG-1 platform from investors and the pharmaceutical industry more widely. We believe we are able to induce a massive highly-specific attack on tumor cells by inducing immunogenic cell death, changing the tumor microenvironment to foster anti-cancer immunity and eventually leading to a long lasting systemic immune memory." He continues: "We are very proud to welcome Forbion and Sunstone as investors and believe they will add significant knowhow in the global immunotherapy field to Rigontec. Our substantial Series A will allow us to boost our development activities and bring this revolutionary technology closer to benefiting patients with life-threatening diseases."

This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of, these securities in any state or jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or jurisdiction.

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## **About Forbion Capital Partners**

Forbion Capital Partners is a dedicated Life Sciences venture capital firm with offices in Naarden, The Netherlands, Munich, Germany and representation in Boston, US. Forbion invests in life sciences companies in drug discovery & development as well as medical device companies addressing substantial unmet medical needs. Forbion's investment team of ten investment professionals has built an impressive performance track record since the late nineties with successful investments in Rhein Biotech, Crucell, Neutec, Glycart, Borean, Impella, Alantos, Acorda (ACOR), Fovea, Insmed (INSM), PanGenetics, Argenta Discovery, BioVex, Pathway Medical, CircuLite, bluebird bio (BLUE), uniQure (QURE), Argos (ARGS), arGEN-X (ARGX.BR), Santaris and PneumRx. Forbion also operates a joint venture with BioGeneration Ventures, who manages two separate seed and early stage funds focused on Benelux. Including the new fund FCF III, Forbion manages EUR 540M across 5 funds. Its investors include the EIF through its European Recovery Programme (ERP), LfA and Dutch Venture Initiative (DVI) facilities. For more information, please visit www.forbion.com

## About Rigontec GmbH

Rigontec GmbH is a privately held German biopharmaceutical company developing RNA-based immunotherapeutics for the treatment of cancer and viral diseases.

Rigontec is developing synthetic ligands of a novel receptor of the innate immune system, Retinoic acid Inducible Gene I (RIG-I), which recognizes viral RNA. RNA motifs that activate RIG-I promote the destruction of diseased cells and the induction of a lasting immune memory thereby treating and preventing recurrence of disease. Rigontec's lead compound, RGT100, a proprietary first-in-class product targeting RIG-I, is currently being evaluated for development in several cancer types including melanoma and prostate cancer.

Rigontec was launched in 2014 as a spin-out of the Institute for Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Pharmacology at the University Hospital of University of Bonn, Germany. It is supported by a consortium of experienced life science investors including Wellington Partners, Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund, Forbion Capital Partners, Sunstone Capital, NRW.BANK and High-Tech Gruenderfonds (HTGF).