



## **Forbion promotes Dirk Kersten to Managing Partner and strengthens US team**

- *Dirk Kersten promoted to Managing Partner, further strengthening firm's leadership*
- *Jonathan McNeill, M.D. joins Forbion as Partner in the Boston office*

**Naarden, The Netherlands – 13 January 2025** - Forbion, a leading global life sciences venture capital firm with expertise in Europe, is delighted to announce the promotion of Dirk Kersten to Managing Partner.

Dirk joined Forbion in 2018 as General Partner and manages the Forbion Growth Opportunities Fund, focused on company expansion. Based in Naarden, he has supported several notable Forbion portfolio companies including Dyne Therapeutics (NASDAQ: DYN), Synox Therapeutics and NorthSea Therapeutics.

**Sander Slootweg, Managing Partner at Forbion, commented,** *"Dirk has been an invaluable member of the team since joining in 2018. His promotion to Managing Partner is testament to his exceptional leadership and the significant impact he has made on our growth. We are excited to see him continue driving our success and in particular, the Growth Opportunities Fund franchise."*

**Dirk Kersten, newly appointed Managing Partner at Forbion, said,** *"I am honoured to take on this new role and continue contributing to Forbion's growth and success. I look forward to working with our talented team and expanding our impact for our limited partners, our portfolio companies, and, most importantly, for the patients they aim to support."*

Forbion is also pleased to announce the appointment of Jonathan McNeill, M.D., as a Partner in its Boston office. Jonathan joins Forbion from Dyne Therapeutics where he was Chief Business Officer, contributing to the biotech's transformation into a leading muscle disease-focused company. Prior to Dyne, he held leadership roles at Editas Medicine, a clinical-stage biotech developing medicines for rare diseases based on CRISPR technology, and was a member of Boston Consulting Group's healthcare practice. At Forbion, Jonathan will support the firm's Ventures Fund strategy, building and enabling earlier-stage biotechs, drawing on his wealth of experience in business development, successful capital raises and initial public offerings. His appointment follows the opening of Forbion's Boston office in June 2024 to support the firm's long-standing activities in the US market.



In addition, Forbion is strengthening its team through the addition of several new hires at Principal, Fellow, Associate and Analyst level. These appointments reflect Forbion's commitment to strengthening its team with next-generation talent that will drive the firm's growth into the future.

## **ENDS**

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### **About Forbion**

Forbion is a leading global venture capital firm with deep expertise in Europe and offices in Naarden, The Netherlands, Munich, Germany and Boston, USA. Forbion invests in innovative biotech companies, managing approximately €5 billion across multiple fund strategies that cover all stages of (bio-) pharmaceutical drug development. In addition, Forbion leverages its biotech expertise beyond human health to address 'planetary health' challenges through its BioEconomy fund strategy, which invests in companies developing sustainable solutions in food, agriculture, materials, and environmental technologies. Forbion's team consists of over 30 investment professionals that have built an impressive performance track record since the late nineties with 128 investments across 11 funds. Forbion's record of sourcing, building and guiding life sciences companies has resulted in many approved breakthrough therapies and valuable exits. Forbion typically selects impactful investments that will positively affect the health and well-being of people and the planet, as well as meet its financial return objectives. The firm is a signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment. Forbion operates a joint venture with BGV, the manager of seed and early-stage funds, especially focused on Benelux and Germany.