



## UK initial ("A0") applications filed February 19th - 25th 2007

**Acacia Pharma** has filed an initial UK patent application (GB0703788) to protect a new therapeutic use. The company seems not to have been involved in patenting until now, and formally operates from an address in the City of London, in Cannon Street, associated with the international law firm **Bryan Cave**. Further investigation reveals that the company was incorporated in the UK as recently as September 2006, and so it remains to be seen what the precise nature of its business is. Bryan Cave has several pharmaceutical specialists on its London-based staff, and contributes to courses on pharmaceutical licensing.

**AGT Sciences** (Advanced Gel Technology Ltd) has applied for a UK patent (GB0703627) covering **aqueous formulations**. This filing was in the same week as another (GB0703479) relating to a **delivery means**, based on a February 2006 priority document. The company's only published application to date seems to be one describing a **hydrogel film** used for assessing the pH of a wound, **WO2005052572**. Not all of the Bradford-based company's hydrogel technology is related to healthcare, the sealing of cracks in oil wells being an extreme example of this diversity. Earlier cases from key AGT staff **Donald England and Nicholas Crowther** are in the names of **ProFlux** and the **University of Bradford**.

**Glide Pharmaceutical Technologies** is seeking UK patent protection (GB0703507) for a **solid pharmaceutical dose**. The Oxford-based company's **Glide needle-free drug delivery technology** was developed under the former name of **Caratek Medical**. An application in that name, **WO2004014468**, is now assigned to Glide Pharma and appears to cover the technology, as may **WO2006082439**. Earlier patenting in this field in the name of Glide's CEO, **Dr Charles Potter**, was assigned to **Oxford Biosciences, PowderJect** and **Oxford Biosignals**. Products under development using this technology include **sumatriptan, octreotide, fentanyl** and an undisclosed biologic. **Bespak**, perhaps better known for aerosol technology, is collaborating with Glide Pharma in this development activity.

**Lectus Therapeutics** is a drug discovery and development company that specialises in the discovery and development of **ion channel therapeutics for urinary bladder disorders, pain and angina**. They have this week filed a UK initial application (GB0703582) entitled "Ion channel modulators and uses thereof". In April 2006, they acquired the assets of **NeuroServe**, an electrophysiology company which tested compounds on ion channels for pharmaceutical clients and those assets probably helped with this filing.

**Michael H Burke** is applying for UK patent protection (GB0703674) for a process for preparing an orally administered unit dose tablet. Dr Burke is MD of Chanelle Veterinary in County Galway, which he founded in 1979, but the Chanelle Group's interests now extend to human therapeutics. **Chanelle Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Limited** (CPML) draws on resources at several universities for some of its development capability. Also in the Group is **Chanelle Medical**, offering a specialized contract packaging service to the industry, and the present invention could well represent an extension of activities in this field. Anomalously, the application claims Irish priority from December 2006, so if it proceeds its contents will be published early in June 2008.

**Moving Sun** has filed a UK initial application (GB0703678) for an **immune system stimulant** and process of manufacturing it. Moving Sun has two prior applications that focus on killing **pathogens in atmosphere** and on artificial and natural surfaces, including skin. October 2006 it was announced that **Mid-States plc.** completed its transforming acquisitions of **INOV8** (formerly DT Assembly and Test Europe Limited) and Moving Sun, to create a leading environmental technology company. Moving Sun's key product is an **air disinfection device**. This new application suggests that Moving Sun is widening its field of interest.

**Sosei R&D** has filed an UK initial application entitled the treatment of **inflammatory disorders and pain** (GB0703494). The company has a few published applications with the same title, **WO2007003896** claims the use of new and known substituted amine compounds for treating rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, multiple sclerosis, COPD, Crohn's disease and atopic dermatitis; **WO2006027579** discloses the use of beta-amino alcohols as cytokine inhibitors for the treatment of chronic degenerative diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis and multiple sclerosis; and **WO2005089741** discloses the use of  $\beta$ -aminoalcohol compounds for the treatment of e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, inflammatory bowel disease, psoriasis, diabetic nephropathy and neuropathic pain.

**Surface Therapeutics** has filed two UK initial applications entitled novel compounds (GB0703677) and compounds (GB0703756). The company was founded in 2004 as a spin-out from the **University of Oxford** based on the research undertaken by its founders **Prof William Cookson** and **Dr Miriam Moffatt**. It focuses on developing innovative new drugs to treat **inflammatory epithelial diseases** of the skin and lungs. The recent published application **WO2007025999** discloses the use of **anaureolyisn** inhibitor, preferably (S)-N1-((S)-3,3-dimethyl-1-(methylamino)-1-oxobutan-2-yl)-N4-hydroxy-2-isobutylsuccinamide for treating/preventing inflammatory skin conditions which are characterized by colonization with *Staphylococcus aureus*, eg **atopic dermatitis**.

**UCB Pharma S.A.** has filed two UK initial applications, one for **fused bicyclic derivatives**, processes for their preparation and their use in medicine (GB0703447) and the other one, **tropane derivatives**, processes for their preparation and their use in medicine (GB0703450). The company's R&D focuses on the following therapeutic areas: **CNS, inflammation and immunology, and oncology**.

Applications can be expected to see publication in late August 2008