

## GenKyoTex S.A.

Implementing unprecedented therapeutic strategies to develop drugs against oxygen radical-mediated diseases

[www.genkyotex.com](http://www.genkyotex.com)

GenKyoTex S.A.  
14, Chemin des Aulx  
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Geneva, SWITZERLAND

Founded in	2006
No. of employees	13
State of Ownership	Private
Primary stock exchange	N/A

**February 2010:** GenKyoTex is the trendsetter developing drugs that block enzymes producing oxygen radicals as opposed to the conventional antioxidant scavenger treatment.

Venture Valuation (VV) interviewed Dr. Patrick Page, General Manager and CSO.



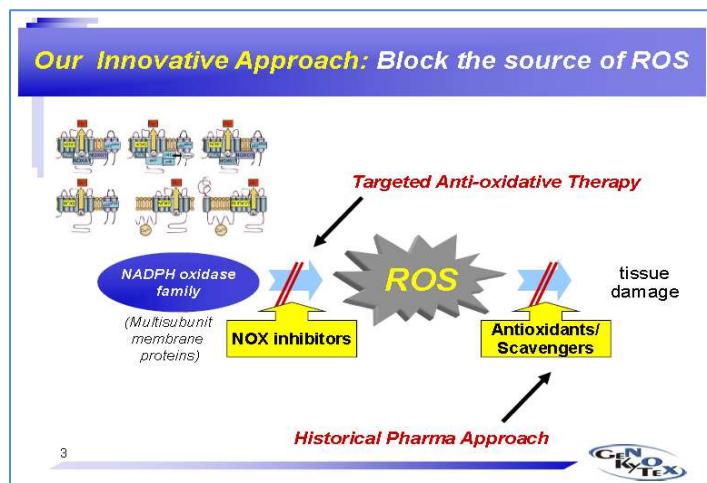
VV:

**Would you please describe your business?**

P. Page:

As our company name implies, GenKyoTex was founded by four scientists from Geneva, Kyoto and Texas in 2006. They are internationally respected experts in fundamental research on the NADPH<sup>1</sup> oxidase protein family (also called NOX enzymes), from four academic institutions: Faculty of Medicine and University Hospitals of Geneva, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine, University of Texas, San Antonio and University of Emory, Atlanta.

With our proprietary isoform-selective screening platform for identification of small molecules that inhibit NADPH oxidases, we are developing a distinctive approach so-called targeted anti-oxidative therapy. The currently available therapeutic interventions such as antioxidant vitamins/scavengers have been proven to be ineffective or harmful in clinical trials. We focus on preventing formation at the source of free radicals called ROS (Reactive Oxygen Species). These are affecting many signaling pathways and, when in excess, cause various diseases. (See chart "Our Innovative Approach: Block the source of ROS").



<sup>1</sup> Nicotinamide-Adenine Dinucleotide Phosphate

There are evidenced relationships between specific NOX enzyme isoforms and certain disease indications. These include various therapeutic fields such as cardiovascular, metabolic (diabetes, Chronic Kidney Diseases (CKD), pulmonary, cancer, central nervous system, reproductive system, inner ear, eye, musculoskeletal, endocrine, and other disorders such as scleroderma. By leveraging our technological advantages, we potentially have huge business opportunities.

VV:

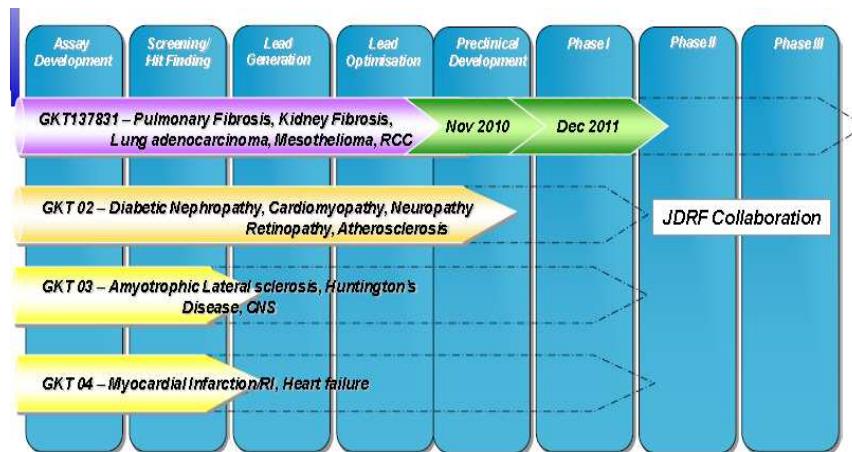
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### What are your strengths?

Our major strength is our groundbreaking screening platform technology initially based on a few rough assays from NOX academic experts, it did required more than 2 years of continuous efforts to the GenKyoTex team in order to translate into a specialized industry standard battery of assays. Our proprietary cell-based and in vitro assays are capable of determining activity of small molecules against each of the five human NOX isoforms, as well as DUOX<sup>2</sup>1 and DUOX2.

GenKyoTex owns know-how on NOX therapeutic pathways along with key knowledge on NOX inhibitors chemical features and structure-activity relationships. We are playing a crucial role as global hub of screening, identification and optimization of promising NOX inhibitors. Through our large network of scientists, we are closely collaborating with prominent research institutions and foundations in Europe, North America, and Japan.

Currently our pipeline consists of four products. GKT137831, a dual NOX4/NOX1 inhibitor, is an internally discovered molecule resulting of a high throughput screening campaign of more than 130,000 molecules.



This promising compound targets fibrotic diseases (pulmonary, kidney, liver), diabetic nephropathy and potentially cancers such as lung adenocarcinoma, mesothelioma, and renal cell cancer. GKT137831 is planned to initiate Phase I by November 2010 and complete phase II for fibrotic disease by the end of 2012.

With regard to the patent portfolio, two patents have been published and five more have been filed. They cover major markets, such as the U.S., Europe, Japan as well as future markets such as China, India or Brazil. More patents will be applied in the near future.

<sup>2</sup> Dual OXidase

**VV:** **What are your current objectives?**

P. Page: We are planning to raise 20 to 25 million CHF to pursue research and development operations and fill the CEO position probably mid or late 2010. We are looking for an energetic individual with solid business development experience as well as scientific background.

Another objective is to go public when GKT137831 has completed phase IIa, which is expected to be in late 2012. We are looking for early partnership with Japanese companies limited to the Japanese market, after completion of preclinical development late this year. We expect to enter into major partnership discussions with others pharmaceutical companies after completion of phase IIa. We have already been approached by major pharmaceutical companies, particularly from Japan.

**VV:** **What opportunities are you exploring in the market?**

P. Page: NOX inhibitors have a wide range of potential therapeutic applications. The most typical conditions are chronic diseases that are likely to happen late in life such as atherosclerosis, diabetic nephropathy, lung fibrosis, cancer, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease. As the population is aging worldwide, medical needs are high in these diseases.

**VV:** **How do you differentiate from your competitors and position your company?**

P. Page: GenKyoTex is the only company implementing unprecedented NOX therapeutic strategies to develop drugs against oxygen radical-mediated diseases. We are years ahead of the competition. We are unique by our innovative platform and the positioning of our molecules to target diseases through completely novel signaling pathways. We have attracted several collaborations from disease specialists in the academia who are highly interested to evaluate the potential of our molecules. This is a clear recognition from the scientific community, research institutions and foundations such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) that demonstrate the excellence and high promises of our approach.

**VV:** **VV Comments after the interview:**

P. Page: GenKyoTex is an example of a remarkable joint endeavour of academia, industry, and government. The company's strong science has been proven with several research universities and hospitals. Eclosion<sup>3</sup>, a private incubator, financed and has been providing GenKyoTex with laboratories and office facilities and critical business know-how. In addition to Eclosion, the SEFTI (Funds of Société Générale Asset Management) invested in GenKyoTex providing financial support to prominent startups like GenKyoTex.

The Swiss Federal Government has also been involved in encouraging innovative young companies like GenKyoTex through CTI/KTI (la Commission

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<sup>3</sup> A private bio-incubator in Geneva providing startup companies with seed funds, management know-how, infrastructure and research support. The major shareholders are pharmaceutical, electronics companies, and financial firms.

Fédérale pour la Technologie et Innovation) as well as the local cantonal government and invested in GenKyoTex through the FAE (Fondation d'Aide aux Entreprises).

**Contact**

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Venture Valuation specializes in independent assessment and valuation of technology-driven companies in growth industries, such as the Life Sciences (Biotech, Pharma, Medtech), ICT, high-tech, Nanotech, Cleantech and Renewable energy. In addition to valuation products, Venture Valuation offers high-quality, focused information services like the Global Life Sciences Database, Biotechgate.com and this "*Let's Interview Series*" with leading Life Sciences companies. We select and interview thriving companies and organizations all over the world.