



Syngene International adopts DiscoveryGate®

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Dr. Madhavan Sridharan
Chief Scientific Manager
Syngene

New Symyx office established in New Delhi

With its large and growing base of educated workers seeded by approximately 22 million graduates per year, India has long enjoyed a reputation as a destination for IT and business process outsourcing, but the country is also fast emerging as a major center for cutting-edge research and development, especially in pharmaceuticals and biotech. To support this R&D growth, Symyx has established an India Office under the management of Dr. Sanjay Sanghani

with a view to helping Indian R&D organizations fully exploit Symyx's integrated Software, Tools and Research to enhance R&D productivity.

Thanks to Sanjay's efforts, Bangalore-based Syngene International Private Limited (a Biocon Company) has recently licensed the DiscoveryGate content platform including CrossFire Beilstein, Patent Chemistry Database, Symyx Available Chemicals Directory (Symyx ACD), MDDR, Symyx Toxicity Database and authoritative reference works on synthetic methodology such as ChemInform Reaction Library, Solid-Phase Organic Reactions, Reference Library of Synthetic Methodology, Derwent Journal of Synthetic Methods, ORGSYN and Integrated Major Reference Works (Elsevier's *Comprehensive Organic Functional Group Transformations* and Springer's *Comprehensive Asymmetric Catalysis*)—comprehensive content that aids in effective synthesis planning.

Syngene—India's first CRC in drug discovery

Syngene International Private Limited, a subsidiary of Biocon Limited, offers multidisciplinary drug discovery services in synthetic chemistry and molecular biology and is one of the largest Custom Research Companies (CRCs) in India. In 2004 Syngene opened a new 50,000-square-foot research center in Bangalore where more than 300 scientists offer R&D services ranging from target discovery and validation to small molecule and library synthesis. Established in 1978, Syngene's parent company, Biocon, is one of India's premier biotechnology companies specializing in biopharmaceuticals, custom research, clinical research and enzymes.

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Symyx's Country Manager in India brings international industry experience

Dr. Sanjay Sanghani brings deep industry experience to Symyx's India Office where he functions as both Account Manager and Distributor for Symyx products and services in India. "With our new dedicated presence in India now in place under the direction of Country Manager Dr. Sanjay Sanghani, we look forward to supporting research organizations in India with the best available integrated informatics and workflow resources," said Timothy Campbell, President of Symyx Software.

Sanjay studied Chemistry at Oxford University under the supervision of Professor W. Graham Richards CBE (recently Chairman of Chemistry). Subsequently, Sanjay received a Ph.D. in Molecular Biophysics from the University of Paris VI and has been a Visiting Fellow with the Tata Institute for Fundamental Research in Mumbai, India. He worked for several years as Scientific Manager for Tripos in the Northeast USA where he was responsible for pharma and biotech accounts and went on to establish a presence for Tripos in India. After working for a few years as an independent consultant out of Cambodia, Sanjay has returned to India to set up Symyx operations.

Inquiries regarding Symyx products, services and recruitment in India may be directed to Dr. Sanjay Sanghani at sanjay.sanghani@symyx.com, Tel: (+91) 98 737 655 02.

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"Accessing CrossFire Beilstein, ACD and a variety of complementary synthetic methodology databases through the DiscoveryGate interface is saving time, enhancing collaboration, accelerating decision-making and improving productivity at Syngene," said Dr. Madhavan Sridharan, Chief Scientific Manager at Syngene. "The ability to browse by reaction type in ChemInform Reaction Library is helping us immensely in the synthesis of novel compounds for custom projects."

"Syngene has had access to CrossFire Beilstein and ACD for many years," commented Sanjay Sanghani. "Now, through DiscoveryGate, Syngene researchers can easily access a much wider selection of chemistry, chemical sourcing, bioactivity and synthetic methodology databases through a single interface. This cuts costs by reducing in-house database maintenance and improves productivity by making it easier to cross-reference data from multiple sources

and make decisions based on all available data. For example, ChemInform Reaction Library helps scientists predict the best synthetic methods and routes to novel compounds, when there are no previously published syntheses. CrossFire Beilstein, the world's largest chemical facts database, provides proven preparations of necessary starting materials and intermediates that are not commercially available. CrossFire Beilstein and ChemInform Reaction Library should be used together for optimal synthesis planning and design. Whether you're dealing with novel or known compounds, Symyx ACD saves additional time and money by making it easier for you to buy compounds instead of making them."

To learn more about how DiscoveryGate helps you find the information you need, visit www.discoverygate.com and sign up for a 30-day trial (no fee, no obligation to buy, subject to acceptance of the applicable DiscoveryGate evaluation license) or request information at www.mdl.com. ■



Syngene employees (from left) Sridevi, Amritha, Rahul, Krishna, Prakash, Selva and Sridhar of the Chemistry Department