

# PRESS RELEASE

Number 9

## US-Based Genopis – WACKER’s Recently Acquired Plasmid DNA Contract Manufacturer – Is Renamed Wacker Biotech US

**Munich / San Diego, March 19, 2021 – Wacker Biotech US Inc. is the new name of Genopis Inc., the plasmid DNA manufacturer based in San Diego, USA, that WACKER acquired in February. The acquisition concerns a plasmid DNA (pDNA) CDMO (Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization) site and its associated business.**

“Changing the name to Wacker Biotech US is the next step in integrating Genopis into the WACKER Group. What’s more, the names of our biotech subsidiaries are now uniform. Together, Wacker Biotech GmbH, Wacker Biotech B.V. and Wacker Biotech US Inc. form a strong partner when it comes to the contract manufacturing of biopharmaceuticals,” explains Guido Seidel, vice president of WACKER’s Biopharma activities and responsible for global biopharmaceutical business. By providing expertise in pDNA technology, Wacker Biotech US Inc. thus expands WACKER’s existing portfolio and creates the basis for further growth in the Biopharma segment. At the same time, Wacker Biotech US Inc. gives WACKER a local presence in the all-important US market for biopharmaceuticals.

Munich-based chemical company WACKER acquired 100% of the shares in pharmaceutical contract manufacturer Genopis Inc. from

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Helixmith Co Ltd, Seoul (South Korea) and Medivate Partners LLC, Seoul (South Korea) in February. The signing of the related agreement was followed by the successful closing in late February and, now, the acquisition's new name: Wacker Biotech US Inc. The approximately 40 employees at the company, which was founded in 2018, have extensive experience in the production of pDNA according to "Good Manufacturing Practice" (GMP) quality guidelines. pDNA can be used either directly for nucleic acid-based gene therapies and for vaccines or as a starting point for such innovative therapeutic agents, for example to manufacture messenger RNA (mRNA). Among other things, mRNA is the basis of innovative SARS-CoV-2 vaccines approved in recent months.

#### **About Wacker Biotech**

Wacker Biotech GmbH, Wacker Biotech B.V. and Wacker Biotech US Inc. are full-service contract manufacturers of therapeutic proteins, live microbial products (LMPs), vaccines based on microbial systems, and of plasmid DNA. Wacker Biotech's portfolio extends from strain/process development and analytical testing through to production for clinical and commercial applications. Wacker Biotech maintains three GMP-compliant (Good Manufacturing Practice), FDA- and EMA-certified production plants at its Jena and Halle sites in Germany and in Amsterdam in the Netherlands. The company's most recent acquisition is its San Diego site (Wacker Biotech US Inc.), added in February 2021. For more information, visit:

[www.wacker.com/biologics](http://www.wacker.com/biologics)






As a CDMO, Wacker Biotech US Inc. operates a specialized fermentation line with a capacity of 500 liters for the production and purification of pDNA (Photo: WACKER).

Note:

This photo is available for download at:  
<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

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**The company in brief:**

WACKER is a globally active chemical company with some 14,300 employees and annual sales of around €4.69 billion (2020).  
WACKER has a global network of 26 production sites, 23 technical competence centers and 52 sales offices.

**WACKER SILICONES**

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber grades and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

**WACKER POLYMERS**

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers and terpolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions

**WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS**

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

**WACKER POLYSILICON**

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries