

ACTIP is an informal forum of European companies focusing on the active use of animal cell-based technologies in the development and production of biopharmaceuticals, virus-based biologics, gene therapeutics, in vitro tissues and organs and other preventative or therapeutic approaches. For purposes of definition, animal cell technology encompasses mammalian cells including human cells and cells from animals such like birds, insects and others. The spectrum of cell types comprises continuous cell lines, diploid cells and cell lines as well as primary cells and stem cells. New developments in other cell types are reported on regularly.

ACTIP was established in 1990 at the request of the European Commission in order to follow the progress of research in EC-funded projects in animal cell biotechnology as a key technology of the biopharmaceutical industry underlying the most substantial innovations in health and life sciences. As the exclusive association in this area, composed solely of European industry, the Platform has set the task to initiate and promote the increase of scientific and technological knowledge in all aspects of cell and tissue culture. ACTIP encourages a balanced approach encompassing both fundamental and applied research for progress of the European industry to sustainably improve health and to drive life sciences. Through numerous meetings, networking activities and position papers, ACTIP has become a respected pan-European and worldwide recognized forum of industrial expertise for European scientists and the European Commission.

ACTIP's objectives are:

- Networking among the member companies, with SMEs and academics working in the field to increase European competitiveness.
- To provide a forum of communication, co-operation and co-ordination between government, academia and industry including SMEs for an optimal exploitation of the scientific, technological and commercial success of animal cell-based biotechnology.
- Directing the attention on initiation, generation and accomplishment of work and research projects sponsored by the European Commission.
- Bringing together industry and academia to focus on scientific, technological and applied challenges in animal cell technology.
- To be a source of industrial expertise through its members
- To be a channel to facilitate technology transfer from academia to industry.
- Speaking up for an increased recognition of young scientists in the field of animal cell technology. Introducing young scientists working in the field of animal cell technology to the ACTIP network by i.e. the ACTIP Fellowship Award.

ACTIP represents 37 member companies. Its website is highly informative and updated weekly (see www.actip.org) and a valued source of information for members and non-members alike.

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