

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **PROTEIN'EXPERT SIGNS ACCORD WITH ALTHEA TECHNOLOGIES TO EXPAND DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING SERVICES**

**GRENOBLE – July 7, 2008 – Protein'eXpert SA, a European contract research and manufacturing organization devoted to the early stage development and production of biotherapeutics announced today that it has signed a Letter of Intent to establish a complementary commercialization partnership with Althea Technologies Inc. (San Diego, United States). Althea Technologies is a leading provider of innovative technologies and services for pharmaceutical development and manufacturing. The agreement stems from the introduction of the firms through the Lyonbiopôle and Invest in France Agency initiatives in the United States.**

The agreement provides for the pairing of each companies highly complimentary expertise to better serve the growing biopharmaceutical development markets and extends the global commercial activities of each firm, particularly in Europe and the United States. Clients will gain access to Protein'eXpert's advanced protein engineering, process development and optimization expertise, with the full realm of cGMP manufacturing resources for production and Fill/Finish services from phase I clinical to commercial manufacturing provided by Althea. These complimentary service offerings will allow both companies to reach larger markets, to broaden services for new and challenging products and to better match early and late stage client requirements for protein projects.

“We are very pleased to enter this agreement with Protein'eXpert. Their highly regarded science and service standards are a wonderful complement to Althea's manufacturing services. We are confident that this will strengthen Althea's presence in Europe and provide Althea clients valuable early stage process development capabilities,” stated Dr. Magda Marquet, President and Co-CEO of Althea Technologies.

“The partnership with Althea Technologies is a great opportunity for us. Their very strong position on the US market and their outstanding production facilities shall perfectly complement our expertise and set of services based on Recombinant protein engineering, development and small scale GMP production” says Dr. Tristan Rousselle, CEO of Protein'eXpert.

This agreement is the first success of the Lyonbiopôle Program of support for biotech companies international development that Protein'expert benefits. This 2008/2009 program, supported by the General Directorate for Enterprises (DGE) from the French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Employment, aims to help small and medium companies to set up international technological partnership with European and international companies.

**About Protein'eXpert, SA.**

Located in Grenoble (France), Protein'eXpert provides integrated protein therapeutics and vaccines development contract services. Recognized as a leading European player in the recombinant protein field, Protein'eXpert offers early stage development programme including protein engineering, process development and small scale cGMP manufacturing services. For more information, visit [www.proteinexpert.com](http://www.proteinexpert.com).

**About Althea Technologies, Inc.**

Althea Technologies, a leading San Diego-based pharmaceutical services firm, provides critical manufacturing services that support researchers worldwide in their advancement of novel therapies and efforts to apply new genomic information. Althea's services include cGMP contract manufacturing of recombinant proteins, DNA-based therapeutics and vaccines, and aseptic filling. For more information, visit [www.altheatech.com](http://www.altheatech.com).

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