

Veeda Clinical Research develops its plans for global expansion.

Veeda Clinical Research, the dynamic Anglo-Indian CRO formed by amalgamation only 2 years ago recently completed the take-over of a Phase 1 clinical research unit in Gorlitz, Germany. The addition of the unit, Veeda's acquisition second in Europe is added to the existing units in Plymouth, UK and Brussels and gives Veeda a broad base for early clinical development in Europe. Further European expansion is already underway in the foundation of a large-molecule analytical laboratory in the Oxford Science Park.

The newly acquired unit, based in the German town of Gorlitz on the German/Czech and Polish boarder is within easy reach of populations and hospital sites in the three countries. The Gorlitz unit was founded in 1992 as a 40-bed phase I facility equipped to conduct sophisticated pharmacokinetic studies in specific target normal populations and in patients. Integration with the UK-based Plymouth Unit is already underway and it is foreseen that the two units together will provide the clinical side of Veeda's European Operation with the addition of the laboratory and statistics and data-management sites in Oxford and Brussels respectively.

The existing Management team in Gorlitz will remain with the Company and will continue to oversee day to day operations and relationships with key customers. Dr Peter Michaelis Head of the Unit said "the acquisition by Veeda CR provides exciting opportunities for this unit to continue to enhance its reputation for delivery of quality clinical research. We are delighted to join the Veeda team and look forward to expanding Veeda's scope of capabilities on a global scale".

Dr Maurice Cross, Veeda's co-founder and Group Medical Director said that "The addition of the Gorlitz Unit means that we now have a very real and distinct presence in Europe and enables us to present to clients a number of options and scenarios for their early clinical development programmes including the access to key patient groups for First-into-Man studies and Proof-of Concept studies"

Binoy Gardi, Managing Director of Veeda's European Operations and co-founder of the Veeda Group commented that the medium term plans for the group as a whole addressed the need for CRO's serving the pharmaceutical industry to have a global presence. He hinted that Veeda (Europe) and Veeda (Asia) would soon be joined through acquisition by Veeda (USA) giving the company a presence in all major markets. In addition, the strategic alliance with Advinus of Bangalore gives the group a heavy-weight presence in the pre-clinical arena also.