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## Success Story of amaxa GmbH

### EU FP Project : INTHER

**Project Title: Development and application of transposons and site-specific integration technologies as non-viral gene delivery methods for ex vivo gene-based therapies**

**Call details:**

Priority : LSH  
Submission date : 16.11.2004  
Reference : LSH-2004-1.2.4-4

**Project type:**

Integrated Project  
Network of Excellence  
● Specific Targeted Research Project

**Website:** [www.molblend.gmxhome.de/INTHER/pages/inther\\_in\\_brief.htm](http://www.molblend.gmxhome.de/INTHER/pages/inther_in_brief.htm)

**Project Abstract:**

This project will develop, test and apply new therapeutic tools for somatic gene therapy as an alternative to currently used viral and non-viral technologies, and will have the potential to offer new solutions for diseases that impose significant impairment to citizens' quality of life, as well as burdens on health care services in Europe.

Safety issues of transposon vector administration and genomic integration will be addressed. The involvement of three SMEs will mobilise industrial know-how and technology

### Consortium composition : 10 partners from 7 countries

|   |    |   |           |
|---|----|---|-----------|
| Max-Delbrück-Centrum Für Molekulare Medizin | DE | Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology (Vlaams Interuniversitair Instituut voor Biotechnologie) | BE        |
| Stockholms Universitet                      | SE | National Medical Center   | HU        |
| The Kennedy Institute-National Eye Clinic   | DK | <b>amaxa GmbH</b>   | <b>DE</b> |
| Hadassah Medical organization               | IL | Solvo Biotechnology, Inc.   | HU        |
| University of Kuopio                        | FI | NSGene A/S  | DK        |

### amaxa in INTHER

**amaxa GmbH's role in the Project** is based on the Nucleofector technology. amaxa has recently launched a system for the highly efficient delivery of DNA or siRNA into primary cells as well as into hard-to-transfect or standard cell lines in a 96-well format.

**Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** are taken care of in the Consortium agreements.

**SMEs go LifeSciences partner** (NCP Life Sciences, PT-DLR) assisted in various ways such as proposal submission, project management and general administrative issues. The fact that there is an experienced support service on all questions concerning EU projects keeps the hurdles low for amaxa GmbH's future EU activities. In the meantime amaxa GmbH has taken the role of coordinator in a further FP6 project and is looking forward to future research cooperations in the 7th Framework Programme

**SMEs go LifeSciences partner :**

**Nationale Kontaktstelle Lebenswissenschaften** - [www.nks-lebenswissenschaften.de](http://www.nks-lebenswissenschaften.de)  
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amaxa biosystems

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**amaxa GmbH** was founded in 1998 and currently employs about 150 people. amaxa's research team is one of the largest R&D groups worldwide working on non-viral gene transfer.

The company is based in Cologne, Germany, and Gaithersburg, MD, USA. With the first product introduced to the market in May 2001 and a strong continuous growth in sales, amaxa has already proven its ability to generate substantial revenues. Having established its Nucleofector® technology in academic and industrial research labs worldwide, amaxa is now in the position to enter the field of clinical research. A step into this direction has already been taken by adapting the nucleofection® concept for clinical applications (WO2004027015) and performing biocompatibility studies on amaxa's nucleofection cuvettes.

