

## **DIREVO Industrial Biotechnology Appoints Karl-Gerhard Seifert Chairman of the Advisory Board**

**Cologne, March 10, 2010.** DIREVO Industrial Biotechnology GmbH (“DIREVO”) announced today that Dr. Karl-Gerhard Seifert has been appointed chairman of the company’s advisory board. Dr. Seifert is a seasoned executive with an impressive track record as a senior manager with companies like Hoechst, Clariant, Morgan Grenfell Equity, and AllessaChemie. He has also held various supervisory or advisory board positions at Deutsche Bank, Trevira (sold to Reliance in 2004) Messer Group, Pemeas (sold to BASF in 2006), Jerini (sold to Shire Ltd. in 2008), Athenix (sold to Bayer CropScience in 2009), SpePharm Holdings, and AllessaSyntec.

DIREVO’s outstanding technological capabilities are a key asset in the generation of industrial enzymes and microbial strains. After raising an additional € 6 million in equity end of January, DIREVO is now implementing its plans to become an integrated biotechnological product and process company. In addition to organic growth, DIREVO explores various strategic options.

“We are very pleased that Dr. Seifert is joining the board and has accepted the position of chairman,” said Dr. Thomas von Rüden, DIREVO’S CEO. “This is a tremendous boost for the board’s expertise and networking potential in the relevant industry,” he continued.

Dr. Seifert added: “I have observed DIREVO’s development over the last few years and have been intrigued by its consistent implementation of an outstanding technology in various industrial processes. Now I am looking forward to supporting the next stages of DIREVO’s development.”

The other board members are Stefan Fischer, deputy chairman (TVM Capital), Prof. Heinrich M. Schulte (Woelbern Invest), Dr. Aristotelis Nastos (NRW.Bank), Dr. Leif Kjaergaard (former CTO of Danisco A/S), and Dr. Alfred Oberholz (former CTO of Evonik AG).

### **About DIREVO Industrial Biotechnology GmbH**

DIREVO Industrial Biotechnology GmbH (“DIREVO”) can look back on a successful ten-year track record in protein optimization. Initially a business unit of DIREVO Biotech AG, it became an independent company in 2008 in the course of the sale of DIREVO Biotech AG to Bayer Healthcare AG. DIREVO provides customized solutions for various industries via the development and optimization of biocatalysts with its proprietary ultra-high-throughput screening platform.

Serving the Feed & Food industries and chemical / biorefinery businesses, DIREVO products are developed either independently or in conjunction with global leaders such as Danisco/Genencor and Nestlé. Initial products from DIREVO’s enzyme optimization facility have already gone on the market. DIREVO’s multi-parameter optimized Phytase (in collaboration with Genencor) and Mannanase (proprietary) are best-in-class products.

DIREVO Industrial Biotechnology GmbH is privately owned and located in Cologne, Germany. The shareholders include TVM Capital (Munich), NRW Bank (Düsseldorf), Wölbern Private Equity Partner GmbH (Hamburg), a private equity firm affiliated with Sparkasse KölnBonn (Cologne), Mulligan BioCapital (Hamburg), SandersMorrisHarris EnzymesLLC (New York), Danisco A/S (Copenhagen), and several private investors.

More information is available at: [www.direvo.com](http://www.direvo.com).

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