

Press Release

Apleonex AG buys LTS AG's Shares in CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH

Management Buy-Out at CRS

Andernach/Hamburg, 19 June 2017 – Apleonex AG has acquired LTS AG's shares in CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH effective immediately. Dr. Torben Thomsen, long-standing CEO and partner at CRS, is the sole director of Apleonex. CRS is a leading European full-service contract research organisation (CRO) – with a focus on Phase I and II clinical research.

As part of the management buy-out, Dr. Torben Thomsen, partner and CEO at CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH and its subsidiaries, has acquired LTS AG's shares in CRS, within the framework of his function as founder and sole director of Apleonex AG based in Hamburg. The acquired shares combined with his previously held shares now make him the majority shareholder at CRS. The trusted team of Dr. Thomsen, shareholder Dr. Atef Halabi, and Prof. Harald Darius, MD, will continue to manage the company in the future. The Supervisory Board of LTS AG and Advisory Boards of CRS have approved the sale.

“I would like to thank LTS AG for their trust and cooperation over the past 10 years. The entry of LTS at the time made a vital surge in growth possible. I am very pleased that the Executive Board of LTS AG approved the takeover and I am convinced that the newly found independence will allow CRS to improve its services even further in the future;” stated Dr. Torben Thomsen. “The long-standing experience and outstanding expertise of our employees are the foundations of CRS. I look forward to our new start together and I am convinced that we will ensure a bright and successful future for the company with the strong support of the experienced CRS team.”

“We are very pleased to have Dr. Thomsen and Apleonex AG as the new majority shareholder, and to have someone that knows the company and has a personal stake in it, managing CRS,” commented H. Werner Lüscher, Chief Financial Officer at LTS AG. “We would like to wish CRS the best of success for the future, during which LTS, as a long-standing customer, will continue to accompany and support CRS.”

CRS. Experts. Early Phase.

CRS is a leading European full-service contract research organisation (CRO) with a total of 300 employees. CRS conducts clinical trials for pharmaceuticals and medical devices at its clinical pharmacology units (CPUs) across Germany. CRS's excellent track record is based on four decades of experience in clinical research, and the very highest standards of quality and safety, with which it helps develop the medicine of tomorrow. Its focus is on Phase I (first-time testing on healthy test subjects for compatibility and safety) and Phase II (therapy concept testing and therapy dose-ranging) clinical trials.

CRS was founded in 2006 following the merger of three clinical research organisations – IKP Institut für klinische Pharmakologie Kiel GmbH, PPN Pharm PlanNet Contract Research GmbH and IKP Institut für klinische Pharmakologie Mannheim GmbH. In 2013, CRS took over the clinical pharmacology units of Bayer HealthCare AG within the framework of a strategic partnership.

Further information is available at www.crs-group.de

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