

## Press release 23/9/99

## Semcon signs a basic agreement with AstraZeneca

Semcon is continuing its offensive within the area of medical technology by signing a basic agreement with Astra Production Liquid Products AB, now AstraZeneca Pharmaceutical Production (AstraZeneca PPSS). The agreement means that Semcon's position within the area of medical technology has been further strengthened through the company's involvement in a range a different development projects for the AstraZeneca group.

Semcon Data's agreement with AstraZeneca PPS is concerned primarily with consultancy services relating to Technical Information and IT. Semcon has had a long association with AstraZeneca within these areas. The agreement can nevertheless be applied in general fashion to other types of consultancy services supplied by other companies within Semcon.

A decisive factor for AstraZeneca's choice of a trading partner was the opportunity to work with a consultancy company which can offer overarching solutions due to its profound competence within several technological areas.

"We see a marked increase in demand for our services within the area of medical technology," says Krister Henriksson, deputy managing director of Semcon Data AB. "We have a great breadth of competence and long experience, which has enabled us to continue enjoying increased confidence on the part of the AstraZeneca group, who are one of our strategically most important customers.

"It is a real challenge that we have now had an opportunity to offer our services within a range of new areas with several of Semcon's member companies becoming involved," says Krister Henriksson. We have carried out a number of tests and checks and on the construction side our electrical and automation department has received a number of commissions. We have also been entrusted with the development of working processes and act as advisers on quality matters.

The company with which Semcon has signed an agreement is a production company within the AstraZeneca group orientated towards "wet products", i.e. medical products in liquid form. AstraZeneca PPSS is established at Snäckviken, Södertälje, and has two factories with somewhat different orientations.

The company is one of the world's leading users of so-called BFS technology, which means the blowing, filling and sealing of plastic ampules in a single operation. Their products include Turbuhaler®, Xylocain®, Naropin®, Pulmicort® and Bricanyl®.

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