

This Week's **Top** Industry News

Provided as a service to DCAT member companies each Friday.

BUSY WEEK? Here are the **TOP INDUSTRY NEWS** stories you might have missed, as selected by DCAT Editorial Director *Patricia Van Arnum*.

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1. [Bayer Names New Chairman](#)

Werner Baumann will become the new chairman of the Board of Management of Bayer AG, effective May 1, 2016, with the current CEO of Bayer AG, Dr. Marijn Dekkers, leaving the company to become the new chairman of Unilever. The change in leadership comes as Bayer positions itself as a pure-play life sciences company with Bayer demerging its material science business and floating it as a separate company, now called Covestro, leaving the strategic focus of Bayer on its life sciences businesses, which include pharmaceuticals, consumer healthcare, and crop science. [Read More](#)

2. [Baxalta, Precision BioSciences Form \\$1.6 Billion CAR T Cell Therapy Pact](#)

Baxalta and Precision BioSciences, a genome-editing company, have formed a global collaboration to develop a broad series of allogeneic chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell therapies directed in multiple cancers in a deal valued up to \$1.6 billion. The move gives Baxalta access to proprietary technology that seeks to overcome the manufacturing-related limitations with existing CAR T therapies. [Read More](#)

3. [ICIG Acquires Sandoz Site](#)

International Chemical Investors Group (ICIG) has agreed to acquire Sandoz Industrial Products GmbH, a Frankfurt-Höchst-based manufacturer of enzyme-based fermentation products and intermediates, following Sandoz's decision to withdraw from the production of intermediates for 7-ACA antibiotics for external customers in May 2015. [Read More](#)

4. [BMS Divests HIV Assets to ViiV Healthcare](#)

ViiV Healthcare, a global specialist HIV company majority-owned by GlaxoSmithKline with Pfizer and Shionogi as shareholders, has completed two previously announced transactions with Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) to acquire BMS's late-stage HIV R&D assets and its portfolio of preclinical and discovery-stage HIV research assets. [Read More](#)

5. [GSK Expands Antibiotics Production in Scotland](#)

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) has invested £70 million (\$98.2 million) to expand antibiotic production at its facility in Irvine, North Ayrshire, Scotland. The expansion creates 55 new jobs. [Read More](#)

6. [AstraZeneca Gains Two EU Approvals and FDA Breakthrough Status for Immuno-Oncology Drug Candidate](#)

AstraZeneca reports several updates to its drug pipeline, including two approvals in the European Union and one breakthrough therapy designation by the US Food and Drug Administration. [Read More](#)

7. [Recipharm Acquires Italian Injectables CDMO for \\$75 Million](#)

Recipharm AB, a CDMO headquartered in Jordbro, Sweden, has agreed to acquire the Italian CDMO, Mitim Srl, for SEK 640 million (\$75 million). Mitim, based in Brescia, Italy, is privately owned and specializes in the filling of injectable beta lactam products. [Read More](#)

8. [FDA Accepts Sanofi's NDA for Combo Diabetes Drug](#)

The FDA has accepted Sanofi's new drug application for its investigational fixed-ratio combination of basal insulin glargine 100 Units/mL and the GLP-1 receptor agonist lixisenatide for the treatment of adults with Type 2 diabetes. Following the redemption of a priority review voucher with the submission, an FDA decision is anticipated in August 2016. [Read More](#)

9. [Codexis Files Lawsuit Against EnzymeWorks in Biocatalysts Dispute](#)

Codexis, Inc., a developer of biocatalysts for the pharmaceutical and fine chemical industries, has filed a lawsuit against EnzymeWorks and its founder, Junhua "Alex" Tao, for willful patent infringement, misappropriation of trade secrets, breach of confidence, and other claims. The suit was filed in the United States District Court, Northern District of California on February 19, 2016. [Read More](#)

10. [FDA Ok's New Uses for Gilead's HCV Drug Harvoni](#)

The FDA has approved additional indications for Harvoni (ledipasvir/sofosbuvir) for use in chronic hepatitis C patients with advanced liver disease. For 2015, Gilead's antiviral product sales were \$30.2 billion compared to \$22.8 billion in 2014 primarily due to sales of Harvoni, partially offset by a decrease in sales of Sovaldi (sofosbuvir), also used to treat HCV. For 2015, Harvoni had sales of \$13.8 billion and Sovaldi had sales of \$5.3 billion. [Read More](#)

Preview of DCAT Week '16 Education Program

[Biomanufacturing Crunch: Myth or Reality?](#)

As the number of biologic-based drugs in development and commercialization grows, a crucial issue for the industry is the availability of biomanufacturing capacity. So where does the industry stand? The DCAT Week education program, *Biopharmaceutical Forum: Global Biomanufacturing Trends, Capacity, and Technology Drivers*, will address this issue with insight on the major capacity additions by pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies and CMOs and the impact on supply-demand fundamentals for biomanufacturing capacity. [Read More](#)

*The DCAT organization is happy to provide this service to its members each Friday.
Have a great weekend!*

About Top Industry News

The DCAT organization recognizes its members have minimal time to keep up with the continuous flow of news covering this dynamic industry. To help ensure our members never miss the most important stories impacting the global pharmaceutical manufacturing industry, we will deliver each Friday, the week's Top Industry News, as selected by DCAT Editorial Director Patricia Van Arnum.



The Drug, Chemical & Associated Technologies Association (DCAT) is a not-for-profit, global business development association whose unique membership model integrates both innovator and generic drug manufacturers and suppliers of ingredients, development and manufacturing services, and related technologies. We are committed to provide programs, events and services that help our members meet their business objectives, expand their network of customers and suppliers, and gain insight into industry trends, markets, and those issues impacting pharmaceutical development and manufacturing.



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