



F-star Wins “UK Life Sciences Deal of the Year” and “UK Life Sciences CEO of the Year” at the Biotech and Money 2017 Awards

Cambridge, UK, 15 September 2017 – F-star, a biopharmaceutical company developing novel bispecific antibodies, is pleased to announce that, at the Biotech and Money ceremony dinner yesterday, it was selected by the audience as a winner for the “UK Life Sciences Deal of the Year” and “UK Life Sciences CEO of the Year” awards.

The “Deal of the Year” award is in recognition of F-star’s strategic collaboration with Merck announced in June to develop and commercialise five bispecific immuno-oncology antibodies (mAb²™). Merck will pay F-star up to €115m in upfront, R&D funding and milestone payments over the first two years and the deal could potentially reach €1b in aggregate if Merck exercises its option. F-star operates an innovative business model whereby asset-centric vehicles are established to create a flexible corporate structure. The deal provides Merck with an exclusive option to acquire the bispecific assets developed within the collaboration, through the buy-out of F-star’s fourth asset-centric company: F-star Delta Ltd.

The “CEO of the Year” category recognises exceptional leadership in the industry. John Haurum, CEO, has steered F-star’s strategy for the past 5 years and has over 15 years of experience leading antibody-based biotechnology companies. John has progressed many assets through clinical development and managed numerous biopharmaceutical collaborations across multiple countries.

On receiving the awards **John Haurum, CEO of F-star** commented *“These awards reflect the hard work and dedication of the entire team at F-star. Our strategic collaboration with Merck in June was a significant milestone for the business and further validates the potential of our bispecific antibody platform. We are grateful to Biotech and Money and the audience who selected us amongst many high-calibre companies who entered the competition.”*

Further information about the Biotech and Money Awards 2017 can be found on the website below:
<http://www.biotechandmoney.com/gala-dinner>

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For further information, please contact:

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About F-star

F-star is a clinical-validated biopharmaceutical company developing immuno-oncology bispecific antibody therapeutics selected for their potential to transform the treatment of cancer. Through the application of its highly efficient Modular Antibody Technology™ platform, F-star is the only biotechnology company able to rapidly create bispecific antibodies with properties virtually identical to a typical antibody. This offers unprecedented ease in the discovery, development, and manufacturing of bispecific antibody products. F-star entered one programme in the clinic and a second immuno-oncology programme is heading toward IND. The company has built a comprehensive IP estate around its technology and product pipeline.

F-star's management team has a well-established track record in building successful biotech companies, and developing biologics. The team is advised by a world-leading scientific advisory board and a highly experienced board of directors. The strength of the technology and programmes has been leveraged through partnerships with leading biopharmaceutical companies including AbbVie, Merck and Denali Therapeutics. F-star has raised close to \$200M in non-dilutive capital and revenues. The company currently employs over 80 people at its research site in Cambridge, UK.

For more information visit www.f-star.com