

**Press release**

**25 November 2021**

**An international success story: Vienna as a life sciences hub**

**41,000 employees in 600 organisations give Vienna a top position in Europe.**

Vienna (OTS): 13.3 billion in sales, around 600 organisations located here and 41,000 jobs: These figures, collected as part of the “Life Sciences in Vienna 2021/22” study, document the current state of the Viennese life sciences industry. This means 25% more relevant companies in Vienna since 2014, about a 15% increase in the number of employees and 33% sales growth in the life sciences sector in the last six years. This success puts Vienna back on international pharmaceutical companies’ radar once again as an economically attractive destination. It also confirms that the numerous life sciences organisations and start-ups located in Vienna have made the right choice.

**Vienna in the international spotlight**

“Sales growth, a constant increase in the number of companies located here and 41,000 employees in the industry – more than the population of the city of Steyr: It’s clear that Vienna is Austria’s life sciences hotspot,” explains Peter Hanke, City Councillor for Economics and Finance. “And our city’s international status another source of pride. The number of employees and organisations working in this industry is significant,” continues Hanke.

The security and stability associated with Vienna as a commercial centre – and not just since the pandemic started – are other important factors in this place of pride. These factors were certainly also crucial for the 50 or so new life sciences companies that made Vienna their home between 2018 and 2020.

**Vienna offers the ideal environment for life sciences**

When it comes to the life sciences industry, the city’s focus is clear: Vienna wants to have research, development and production within the city and helps create the necessary environment for these companies – including a pool of skilled labour. “We have 42,000 students in Vienna taking advantage of the city’s wide range of educational opportunities in the life sciences,” continues Hanke. “If international and domestic life sciences companies are looking for well-trained specialists elsewhere, they need look no further

than Vienna,” continues Hanke.

These figures also demonstrate the economic importance of the life sciences sector to Vienna: Around 40% of the companies located here are active in research, development and production; together they invested around 850 million euros in 2020. Hanke concludes by referring to three current developments in the industry that further underline the importance of the Vienna life sciences scene in the industry’s international reputation:

Hookipa, a company that has been dedicated to fighting cancer and serious immune diseases for ten years, is setting up its own production site in Vienna’s Seestadt Aspern district.

The German pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim has opened its new biotech plant in Vienna after four years of construction. This company has invested more than 700 million euros in the Meidling site for an additional 500 new jobs.

The life sciences company Takeda is investing hundreds of millions in a new technologically and environmentally optimised building for biopharmaceutical research and development in Vienna’s Seestadt district.

*The Vienna Life Science Report 2020/21 for download <https://www.lisavienna.at/>*

*The “Life Sciences in Vienna 2021/22” study was commissioned by the LISAVienna industry platform.*

#### **Questions:**

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