

CSL Behring's Helixate® FS and Mix2Vial™ Now Packaged Together to Optimize Patient Safety and Convenience

CSL Behring is packaging Helixate FS, its advanced recombinant FVIII (rFVIII) factor product for the treatment of hemophilia A, with Mix2Vial, a needle-free transfer device designed and manufactured by Medimop Medical Projects Ltd., a West Pharmaceutical Services company. The new packaging was developed in response to comprehensive market research of customers and to meet the latest Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements.

"Since the introduction of Mix2Vial in 2005, our patients have learned how user-friendly the device is compared to other transfer devices on the market," said Robert Lefebvre, Vice President, General Manager, U.S. Commercial Operations, CSL Behring. "By packaging this technology with Helixate FS and a 2.5 mL vial of sterile water diluent that can be used for all potencies, we are providing patients, parents and health professionals with a fast, simple and safe way to facilitate the mixing process."

Biopharmaceutical companies are increasingly turning to West for reliable devices that make the delivery of their lyophilized products, which require reconstitution, easier to manage while ensuring federal regulatory compliance. The Mix2Vial device is a simpler way to mix Helixate FS, or any other drug that requires reconstitution, prior to injection. The device, which can be used by children or adults, has a built-in filter that enables fast, easy infusions with less risk of accidental injury. Before the availability of Mix2Vial, the reconstitution of Helixate FS required the use of a double-ended transfer needle, which required extra vigilance to prevent accidental needle-sticks.

About Mix2Vial

The Mix2Vial is an easy-to-use, plastic, needle-free transfer device. It is user-friendly, with color-coded end caps. The blue cap goes to the diluent vial and the clear side to the Helixate FS product vial. For nurses, pharmacists, patients, caregivers and others mixing products, the Mix2Vial is an example of one of the efficient, convenient and easy-to-use devices manufactured by Medimop and offered by West Pharmaceutical Services.

Medimop provides systems and devices for reconstituting and mixing lyophilized and dry powder drugs and for transferring liquid drugs between vials and other vessels for administration. Many Medimop products are approved as medical devices by the United States Food and Drug Administration and carry CE certification for European markets. In addition, many Medimop products are protected by patents.



West Strengthens European Management

West is strengthening its European management team through the promotion of three members of the company's key personnel. This involves the appointment of Laurent Frechin as Vice President of European Sales, Mike Schäfers as Vice President of Marketing for Europe, and Simon Winn as Sales Director, Northern Region following the recent retirement of Fred Elson.

Laurent has been a driving force behind the growth of West Pharmaceutical Services in the Western Region of Europe as Director of Sales for Continental Europe. As Vice President of European Sales, he will be responsible for sales in all European regions as well as the country territories of Italy and Spain. Laurent joined West in 1999.

Mike Schäfers' appointment as Vice President of Marketing for Europe reflects his contribution to West's regional and global business strategy evolution, his role as Director of European Marketing, as well as driving Sales and Marketing with Laurent. Mike has been with West since 2000.

Simon Winn, who joined the company in 1990, is promoted to Sales Director, Northern Region. Reporting to Simon in his new role will be the U.K. account managers, and the Scandinavian Countries Sales Manager.

"The promotions of all three individuals are recognition for their outstanding performances and engagement in their previous roles at West Pharmaceutical Services," said Robert Keating, President of West Pharmaceutical Services, Europe and Asia Pacific. "With these new appointments within our European management team, we will be able to further strengthen West's leading position in the European markets."

West Pharmaceutical Services Cornwall Ltd. Doubles Capacity at Bodmin Facility

An expansion program at West's tool building facility in Bodmin, Cornwall, U.K., will double production capacity and lead to an increase in staffing.

"The expansion to the Bodmin plant indicates a significant commitment by West Pharmaceutical Services and we are absolutely thrilled about it," said Paul Dunn, plant manager, Bodmin. "The expansion reflects the very high standards set by the company and that we are working to."

The Company will double the size of the Bodmin factory, add additional machinery and refurbish the current facility. The extension to the factory will be complete at the end of April and the facility's new areas will be fully operational in May of this year.

The rubber and plastic moulds and trim dies produced at the plant are intended for West's plants in Europe and Singapore.

Le Nouvion and Eschweiler pass FDA inspection

West was pleased to announce that the facilities in Le Nouvion and Eschweiler passed an inspection by the United States Food & Drug Administration (FDA) which both took place early in the year. Both sites were praised for providing information in a timely fashion and very professional manner. This current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) inspection continues West's positive inspection history with the FDA.

Visit West at these Events

May

Pharmaceutical & Medical Packaging, Copenhagen, 8 – 9
Concept Heidelberg 'Syringe Systems', Mannheim, Germany 15-16
Prefilled Syringe 2007, London, 24 – 25
Vaccine Forum, Munich, 29 – 30

June

APV Seminar 'Primary Packaging Materials', Freiberg, Germany 12-13
Concept Heidelberg, 'Prefilled Syringes', Berlin, Germany 13-14
AAFI ISPE, Rimini, 13 – 15



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