

PRESS RELEASE

GalChimia opens an R&D centre in the Barcelona Science Park

- With this first subsidiary the Galicia-based company expects to increase its turnover by 25% over the next two years and step up its growth and internationalisation plan.
- GalChimia was established in 2001 as a spin-off at the University of Santiago de Compostela in a business venture run by organic chemistry PhDs Carme Pampín and Jacobo Cruces.
- Over 225 customers across 25 countries today make it a leading international organic chemistry product and service provider for the pharmaceutical industry. The company's heavy investment in internationalisation has enabled it to double its sales in five years.
- Its funding comes from its operations and all its share capital is still owned by the entrepreneurial team of Drs Pampín and Cruces, USC Organic Chemistry Department lecturers Gabriel Tojo and Ramón Estévez, and venture capital firm Unirisco Galicia.

Barcelona, 19 April 2018. A specialist in organic chemistry products and services for the pharmaceutical industry, Galician firm [GalChimia](#) has today opened its R&D centre in the [Barcelona Science Park \(Parc Científic de Barcelona, PCB\)](#) to step up its growth and internationalisation strategy.

GalChimia was established in 2001 as a spin-off at the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC) by organic chemistry PhDs Carme Pampín and Jacobo Cruces. With over 225 customers in 25 countries worldwide, it is now an international leader in discovery chemistry for the pharmaceutical industry. The company's heavy investment in internationalisation has enabled it to double its sales in just five years.

"GalChimia has been highly successful in Spain due to its huge experience in synthetic organic chemistry," says Carme Pampín, CEO at GalChimia and Chair of Bioga, the Galician Life Science Business Technology Cluster. "The PCB is one of the leading biotechnology clusters in Europe. We've opened our first national branch there because as a company we've taken the strategic decision to continue growing within Spain and add to our footprint in the international market."

"Our presence in Barcelona will bring us much closer to a large part of our current clients and also place us in a strategic position in Europe," Pampín explains. "With this new site, GalChimia expects to increase its turnover by 25% in the next two years."

Passion for chemistry

GalChimia discovers, develops and markets chemical products and high added-value services for pharmaceutical research laboratories, with a portfolio that includes discovery chemistry, process development and analytical services. The company also delivers scientific advice, technical consulting and support for basic and technological chemistry research.

Over the last 16 years the GalChimia team has successfully completed more than 1,500 drug discovery projects for cutting-edge pharmaceutical firms and small biotech companies in its field.

“Chemistry is the foundation for a pharmaceutical company’s development and the active ingredient in its drugs,” points out Julie Masse, Head of International Business Development and Director of the GalChimia centre in the PCB. “It’s the company’s most sensitive activity in terms of science and also intellectual property. At GalChimia, we’re experts in chemical synthesis. We’ve been in this business for over 16 years and we have an outstanding team which has solved numerous problems for customers all over the world. Each year we invest 30% of our earnings in technological equipment and R&D.”

“In the 4 years I’ve been with the company I’ve seen how highly GalChimia’s customers rate what it does,” she adds. “We furnish them with our knowledge and they also come to see us because they trust us and know we make every effort to carry out their projects. Our new R&D centre at the PCB will allow us to meet the ever-growing demand and deliver our chemical research and process development knowhow and expertise in a strategic European setting.”

Today’s opening ceremony at the PCB for GalChimia’s new centre brought together fifty people from academia, science and business, including the company’s founding partners and management team and Barcelona Science Park CEO Ignasi Belda. The event was also attended by a large number of its customers, including pharma giants Esteve and Amirall, who came along to support the Galician firm on this significant day.

■ About GalChimia

GalChimia (www.galchimia.com) was established in 2001 as a spin-off at the [University of Santiago de Compostela \(USC\)](#), by Carme Pampín and Jacobo Cruces, two young PhDs in the Organic Chemistry Department who decided to embark on a pioneering business venture in chemical synthesis. [UNINOVA](#), an incubator for innovative tech-based companies sponsored by the USC and [Santiago City Council](#), mentored the entrepreneurs in mapping out and driving their business plan.

The company is headquartered in O Pino (A Coruña) in Galicia and has a research centre in the Barcelona Science Park in Catalonia. Its team consists of 45 highly-qualified professionals (more than 60% have PhDs in chemistry) who have the flexible and innovative spirit needed for undertaking projects that call for advanced “applied creativity” techniques.

GalChimia has an outstanding position in Spain in the synthetic organic chemistry industry. Its customers include pharmaceutical firms Almirall and Esteve along with major multinationals and national and international biotech companies. Over the years it has also partnered prominent institutions such as the University of Santiago, the University of Barcelona, Harvard Medical School and the University of Cambridge.

The company is funded largely by marketing its products and services and all its share capital is still owned by its entrepreneurial team of scientists Carme Pampín and Jacobo Cruces, USC Organic Chemistry Department lecturers Gabriel Tojo and Ramón Estévez and [Unirisco Galicia](#), the first venture capital firm to fund tech-based companies coming out of the USC.

GalChimia's R&D projects are supported by the Regional Government of Galicia and the Galician Innovation Agency (Conecta Peme Programme), the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (*Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial*, CDTI), the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness (ERDF Innterconecta and Innpacto programmes) and the European Union (H2020 programme and the FP7).

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