

Celebrates a Decade of Service and Growth


PharmAgra Labs in Brevard, has grown from a company focused on early stage chemical discovery to an FDA inspected, contract research organization with the ability to synthesize organic compounds within the most demanding timelines.

Peter Newsome, PhD, a former senior research chemist with Rhone-Poulenc, and Roger Frisbee, a former vice president of Pisgah Labs, Inc., founded and own PharmAgra. Over their first decade, they've expanded their services to encompass custom synthesis and process development, analytical chemistry, cGMP services and low-volume API manufacturing. PharmAgra's 11,400-square-foot facility contains a research lab, kilo lab, cGMP lab and analytical lab.

PharmAgra is able to take its clients from discovery all the way to Phase I and Phase 2 clinical trials. It works with companies in the U.S., Japan, Sweden and England in numerous industry sectors including pharmaceutical, biotech, performance chemical, polymers, medical devices and agriculture.

PharmAgra's ability to meet the needs of clients has made it a preferred vendor for Mark Creswell, president and CEO of IDSC, LLC based in Ann Arbor, MI. Creswell began working with PharmAgra in 1999 when he was with Pfizer.

"The reason I've been with them for 10 years is that they do an outstanding job," Creswell said. "From chemical analysis to the scale-up of compounds, they've always delivered on time. They have a nice facility with a small-scale GMP lab. They consistently understand what clients need and deliver. That's allowed them to build their business in a tough industry."

Paul Watson, PhD, director of chemistry for Durham's Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is another long-time client. "We've done three or four very diverse projects," he said. "They are quite flexible in what they can do. They've been very dependable, are very price competitive and meet every timeline that we've had." 

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