

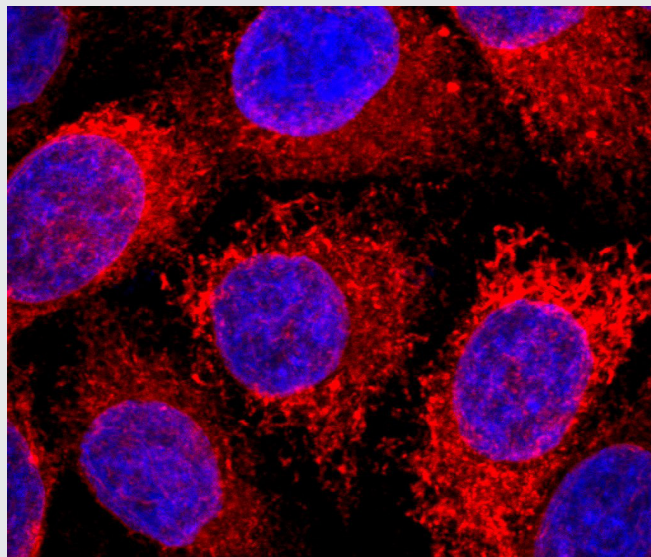
Leading Biotechnology Company of the Year - Portugal

For almost 13 years, SICGEN Antibodies has been providing effective antibody solutions to research institutions. Through its work, it has furthered research within numerous areas, with the most recent example being its contributions to Covid-19 antibody research projects. Indeed, SICGEN Antibodies plays a vital role within the industry, and throughout 2022 it only hopes to broaden this impact.

Spawning out of the University of Coimbra, SICGEN Antibodies was founded under the NEOTEC Portuguese Initiative in 2009 by Dr. José Ramalho. The company then moved to NOVA University Lisbon later in that same year. Jumping forward to 2017, a UK investor acquired 50% of the company's shares – the other half, of course, remaining with the CEO, Dr. José Ramalho. SICGEN antibodies continues to be based out of a small district of Coimbra, from where it develops and produces antibodies for research in life sciences.

Polyclonal antibodies serve as the company's core focus. Offering numerous advantages, polyclonal antibodies bolster numerous elements of monoclonal antibodies, including creating multiple epitopes, faster production, and increasing competitive traits. As both primary and secondary antibodies, they can be used in a variety of different techniques such as ELISA, FACS, IF, IHC, IP, WB, etc. Moreover, SICGEN Antibodies operates as an Accredited Animal Facility. The company offers numerous packages, such as antigen design, antigen synthesis, antigen conjugation, immunization, ELISA tests, purification, and antibody labelling and characterisation.

SICGEN Antibodies' products have been used within a variety of research areas – for example, the antibodies against fluorescent proteins such as GFP, mCherry, tdTomato have featured in many life science research publications, such as Nature, Cell and Science.



Subsequently, in 2021, the company maintained almost 300 products in its portfolio, with many being used within Western Blotting (WB), Immunofluorescence (IF), and immunocytochemistry (IHC) research.

As of 2022, the company is producing polyclonal antibodies for clients around the globe, including leading national and international institutions, universities, research institutes, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and biotechnology distributors. As such, SICGEN Antibodies has built its core market base across North America, Europe, and the Far East. It has successfully built up its profile through a combination of effective marketing schemes, including direct sales, working through countrywide distributors, and the utilisation of an OEM system. Furthermore, the company benefits from its location, as much of its competition is based in North America. Consequently, SICGEN Antibodies has been able to seamlessly build its way up to a leading position throughout Europe.

A key factor within the company's success has been the dynamics of its team – it is small yet resilient, dedicated and highly-skilled. On the whole, the team endeavours to be organised and focused, with the aim to produce a quality end result. Learning is greatly encouraged, and SICGEN Antibodies does not stray away from delving into the techniques used by its competition. Through enabling growth and evolution via these means, SICGEN Antibodies has cultivated a workplace environment that thrives upon change and keeping up to date with industry trends.

Henceforth, over the years SICGEN Antibodies has filled numerous gaps in the market, adapting to whatever is needed at that particular time. For example, during the Covid-19 pandemic, the company delved into developing antibodies effective against the proteins of SARS-CoV-2 that were subsequently used in research on Covid-19. This transformation was completed in an extraordinarily short amount of time, largely due to the help SICGEN Antibodies received through the support of a grant financed by Portugal2020 - I&D COVID19.

The upcoming year can expect to see the company shift towards further market developments, as it endeavours to take full advantage of cutting-edge technologies. Indeed, its long-term mission is to become a global producer of polyclonal antibodies and antibody-related products and services of the highest quality, at competitive prices.

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