

Second quarter biotech job picture

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In the second quarter of 2010, biotech and pharmaceutical postings on the three representative job databases tracked by *Nature Biotechnology* (Tables 1 and 2) largely stayed the same from the previous quarter (*Nat. Biotechnol.* **28**, 527, 2010). Noteworthy increases in job openings were seen from instrument systems and consumables manufacturers Life

Technologies (Carlsbad, CA, USA), PerkinElmer (Waltham, MA, USA), Bio-Rad Laboratories (Hercules, CA, USA) and Illumina (San Diego).

Table 3 shows selected downsizings within the life science industry. *Nature Biotechnology* will continue to follow hiring and firing trends throughout 2010.

Table 1 Who's hiring? Advertised openings at the 25 largest biotech companies

Company ^a	Number of employees	Number of advertised openings ^b		
		Monster	Biospace	Naturejobs
Monsanto	21,700	0	0	31
Amgen	16,800	29	29	1
Genentech	11,186	6	26	100
Genzyme	11,000	63	0	0
Life Technologies	9,700	71	89	0
PerkinElmer	7,900	52	0	0
Bio-Rad Laboratories	6,600	12	17	0
Biomerieux	6,140	9	0	0
Millipore	5,900	15	11	0
IDEXX Laboratories	4,700	14	0	0
Biogen Idec	4,700	38	104	1
Gilead Sciences	3,441	0	26	0
WuXi PharmaTech	3,172	0	0	0
Qiagen	3,041	0	0	1
Cephalon	2,780	0	0	0
Biocon	2,772	0	0	0
Celgene	2,441	13	10	0
Biotest	2,108	0	11	0
Actelion	2,054	4	1	0
Amylin Pharmaceuticals	1,800	9	3	0
Elan	1,687	7	2	0
Illumina	1,536	2	27	9
Albany Molecular Research	1,357	0	0	0
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	1,322	40	58	2
CK Life Sciences	1,315	0	0	0

^aAs defined in *Nature Biotechnology's* survey of public companies (**27**, 710–721, 2009). ^bAs searched on Monster.com, Biospace.com and Naturejobs.com, 21 July 2010. Jobs may overlap.

Table 2 Advertised job openings at the ten largest pharma companies

Company ^a	Number of employees	Number of advertised openings ^b		
		Monster	Biospace	Naturejobs
Johnson & Johnson	119,200	522	8	19
Bayer	106,200	78	27	3
GlaxoSmithKline	103,483	5	1	2
Sanofi-Aventis	99,495	12	1	4
Novartis	98,200	144	94	20
Pfizer	86,600	2	81	88
Roche	78,604	35	31	20
Abbott Laboratories	68,697	67	42	1
AstraZeneca	67,400	71	7	4
Merck & Co.	59,800	0	10	0

^aData obtained from *MedAdNews*. ^bAs searched on Monster.com, Biospace.com and Naturejobs.com, 21 July 2010. Jobs may overlap.

Table 3 Selected biotech and pharma downsizings

Company	Number of employees cut	Details
Albany Molecular Research	80	Restructured its US operations, including reducing head count by about 10% and suspending operations at one of its research laboratories in Rensselaer, New York.
Cell Therapeutics	36	Reduced head count by 29% to 88 to conserve cash, with the cuts coming mostly from sales and marketing.
GTC Biotherapeutics	50	Will restructure and reduce head count by 46% to 59 to save cash.
Helicos BioSciences	40	Reduced head count by 50% to 40 and plans to refocus its business on molecular diagnostics development.
InterMune	60	Reduced head count by 40% to 85, with the cuts coming predominantly in the commercial and discovery research areas.
Lonza Group	193	Reducing head count by 6% to 2,899 at its R&D and production site in Visp, Switzerland, to save cash.
Myriad Pharmaceuticals	21	Restructured and reduced head count by 13% to about 140 to focus on its cancer pipeline.
Novartis	383	Will restructure Novartis Pharmaceuticals and reduce head count at the US unit. Thirty-five percent of the cuts will be achieved by not filling vacant positions. The cuts will primarily come from "headquarter-based functions," with minimal impact on the commercial sales organization.
Pfizer	6,000	Announced plans to restructure its global manufacturing plant network and reduce manufacturing head count by 18% to 27,000 over the next five years. Plans to close eight sites in Puerto Rico, Ireland and the US and reduce operations at another six sites.
Sanofi-Aventis	400	Cuts will primarily come from US sales force, which previously had 5,700 employees.
Takeda Pharmaceutical	~1,900	Will reduce head count by about 10% to reduce costs in its fiscal year 2010 ending March 31, 2011.

Source: BioCentury.

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