

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Corporate Social Responsibility: Expanscience maintains its exemplary status and makes significant progress

In 2013 Expanscience became the first pharmaceutical and dermo-cosmetics laboratory to have its contribution to sustainable development recognized as "exemplary" by the AFAQ 26000 assessment. Following a renewal evaluation conducted in late 2016 by AFNOR Certification, Expanscience has maintained its exemplary rating with an improved level of maturity, scoring 744 points out of 1000.

This performance is a testament to the Corporate Social Responsibility policy that Expanscience adopted more than a decade ago, reinforced by its Better Living Program of commitments for 2020.

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#### An exemplary contribution to sustainable development

To assess the **maturity of Expanscience's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy**, the independent auditors from AFNOR, France's national standards body, met with nearly 60 employees in France and worldwide as well as several stakeholders: a healthcare professional, a supplier, a patients organization, etc. Conducted **36 months after the initial evaluation**, this second audit **confirmed Expanscience's performance as "exemplary," the highest possible rating**, and highlighted significant progress in every aspect of Expanscience's CSR policy. With a final score of 744 points out of 1000, Expanscience has cemented its status as a model company and now ranks among the **top ten companies** on the AFAQ 26000 assessment.

#### Recognition of initiatives in every area of CSR

In its assessment report, AFNOR Certification commended the ongoing nature of Expanscience's commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility; its CSR vision and strategy, which includes listening and responding to its stakeholders' expectations; and the company's progress in raising CSR awareness and standardizing its CSR practices at its subsidiaries worldwide.

Expanscience maintains an active, day-to-day commitment to responsible innovation, design and production for its pharmaceutical and dermo-cosmetics products. In particular, the auditors singled out:

- the quality of the **eco-friendly and socially responsible design process for Mustela-brand dermo-cosmetics products**, intended to limit each product's impact on the community and the environment over its entire lifecycle;
- the advances in Expanscience's **responsible sourcing policy**, based on the ISO 26000 standard, aimed at integrating its **strategic suppliers** and deploying the policy at its international subsidiaries;
- Expanscience's actions to show **respect for indigenous populations** and **preserve biodiversity** in maintaining **responsible plant raw material supply lines**. The newest



cosmetic active ingredient from Laboratoires Expanscience, Ormesia, is one example of this. Developed from maracuya seeds using a patented extraction process that is friendly to both people and the environment, Ormesia is responsibly sourced in Peru.

### Continued progress through the Better Living Program

Expanscience will maintain its efforts to make further progress, based on the areas for improvement identified in the AFAQ 26000 assessment. In particular, the company needs to standardize its practices and ensure a more uniform level of overall CSR performance worldwide, and strengthen its evaluation process for its suppliers and partners in light of its CSR objectives.

To that end, Expanscience will draw on its program of commitments for 2020, the **Better Living Program**. The program's three basic tenets – innovate responsibly and collaboratively, advance alongside its communities, take care of its customers and their environment – are designed to promote better living in each of the company's communities.

Expanscience is committed to deploying its **CSR policy in all of its subsidiaries** by 2020 and establishing an **international code of business conduct**. With a view toward responsible business growth, Expanscience will share a CSR action plan with **all its strategic suppliers** throughout the world. Moreover, Expanscience will continue its actions to care for its customers and their environment by developing **products that are more virtuous throughout their lifecycle** and by offering **solutions that aid prevention in the areas of skin health and osteoarthritis**.

Says Karen Lemasson, Director of CSR and Open Innovation: "Promoting better living in our communities – consumers, patients, employees, healthcare professionals, NGOs – is a strategic priority. The results of this new AFAQ 26000 assessment serve as recognition of this shared vision among our employees and their day-to-day efforts. They encourage us to enhance the value that we and our brands provide to our future communities. That's the goal behind our Better Living Program for 2020."

#### About Laboratoires Expanscience

In 2016, Expanscience – a French independently owned pharmaceuticals and dermo-cosmetics laboratory – generated turnover of €277.8 million (estimated), 54.9% of which was through exports, and employed 1044 people.

Over more than 60 years, the company has built up a solid international reputation as an innovator and as a specialist in skin and the treatment of arthritis. Its products, which include two leading brands – Piasclédine 300 and Mustela – are sold in over 100 countries (90 distributing countries and 14 subsidiaries). Expanscience develops and also sells natural-origin active ingredients for use in cosmetics, both in France and abroad.

The whole value chain is integrated into the company – from research through to production and distribution. Laboratoires Expanscience has maintained a Corporate Social Responsibility policy since 2004. This commitment is reflected in a policy of sourcing plant raw materials in ways that do not harm the farmers and the countries that produce them, and in a more ecologically friendly approach to product design.

Expanscience is the first pharmaceutical and cosmetics laboratory whose contribution to sustainable development was recognized as exemplary by the AFAQ 26000 assessment in 2013.

#### Laboratoires Expanscience in figures

Date founded: 1950

2016 turnover: €277.8 million (estimated)

90 distributing countries and 14 subsidiaries

1044 employees



70.8 million products manufactured

Business lines: Dermo-Cosmetics, Dermatology, Rheumatology, Cosmetic Active Ingredients

Find out more: [www.expanscience.com](http://www.expanscience.com)

### **About AFNOR Certification**

AFNOR Certification is the leading certification body in France and a pioneer in the external assessment of CSR practices with over 200 public and private organizations assessed to AFAQ 26000 standard. An independent body, AFNOR Certification acts as an objective adjudicator of a company's commitment to CSR. The certifier's experts evaluate a company and deliver an objective and impartial report. Find out more at: [www.afnor.org](http://www.afnor.org).

### **About AFAQ 26000**

The AFAQ 26000 is an assessment that determines the extent to which the principles of sustainable development are integrated by companies, in accordance with the ISO 26000 standard. The assessment covers five criteria (vision of CSR and governance; implementation: integration and communication of CSR; human resources, labour relations and practices; modes of production, sustainable consumption and consumer issues; local integration: communities and local development) as well as the three pillars of sustainable development: environmental results, social results and economic results.

AFAQ 26000 enables companies to demonstrate in complete transparency the level of maturity of their corporate social responsibility policy and the strengths and areas for improvement of their practices. AFAQ 26000 awards four levels of maturity (Commitment, Improvement, Advanced, Exemplary) based on the number of points granted.

