Swedish government gives its backing to Qlucore as bioinformatics Company receives R&D funding

VINNOVA Grant will speed the interactivity and visual feedback of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) data analysis for scientists

<u>Qlucore</u>, a world leader in the development of bioinformatics software, today announces it will develop an enhanced NGS-enabled release of <u>Qlucore Omics Explorer</u>. A recent grant awarded by <u>VINNOVA</u>, the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems, now makes it possible for Qlucore to implement its NGS solution.

Genome research has advanced significantly in recent years, and the ability to determine the entire DNA of a person for \$1,000 will soon be reached. This technological revolution, known as "Next Generation Sequencing" (NGS), will be a paradigm shift for biomedical research, industry and healthcare. This shift will move the bottleneck from data generation to data analysis and interpretation. Qlucore is at the forefront of commercial software development for the analysis of genomic data sets. The firm has an impressive customer base, including several of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies and prestigious international research institutions, in more than 20 countries.

Qlucore will extend it's current Omics Explorer platform with a new product module for the fast, user-friendly and interactive analysis of NGS data. The product module will be for users such as biologists and scientific researchers, and will differ from other solutions currently on the market, as existing solutions typically require an experienced data analyst or bioinformatician.. Qlucore's unique approach makes it possible for more users to perform analysis themselves, and increases the likelihood of innovative and better results both within the scientific research and healthcare fields. Development and innovation will be driven by Qlucore in cooperation with world leading scientists at Sweden's Lund University.

"Qlucore Omics Explorer is currently aiding scientists around the world to visually analyze a wide range of data types from genetic and protein related experiments. With this support from VINNOVA we will give scientists the same user experience for NGS data analysis. We will deliver a new and powerful user analysis experience." says <u>Carl-Johan Ivarsson</u>, President, Qlucore

VINNOVA is the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems, and a major part of its support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is the Research&Grow programme which now includes Qlucore. One of VINNOVA's strategic areas is supporting innovative SMEs.

"Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are characterized by an ability to accept, apply and develop new knowledge and techniques in new business opportunities. This is how they strengthen their competitiveness and growth prospects. VINNOVAs Research&Grow program is designed to strengthen and stimulate growth in SMEs through increased Research and Development." says Carl Naumburg, Program Manager at VINNOVA.

Qlucore will build on its interactive data visualization and make it available for NGS data in future versions of Qlucore Omics Explorer, Qlucore plans to release a first NGS enabled version of Qlucore Omics Explorer in 2014.

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Carl-Johan Ivarsson, MSc, is a co-founder and CEO of Qlucore. He has more than 15 years' experience in the international software, data analysis and telecommunication industries, in both business management and sales, including two years as the head of Ericsson Mobile Platforms in China and six years as Qlucore President.

About Qlucore

Qlucore started as a collaborative research project at <u>Lund University</u>, Sweden, supported by researchers at the Departments of Mathematics and Clinical Genetics, in order to address the vast amount of high-dimensional data generated with microarray gene expression analysis. As a result, it was recognised that an interactive scientific software tool was needed to conceptualise the ideas evolving from the research collaboration.

The basic concept behind the software is to provide a tool that can take full advantage of the most powerful pattern recogniser that exists - the human brain. The result is a fast, user friendly and powerful software program that lets the user handle and filter data and the same time instantly visualise it in 3D. The application areas span multiple fields with the common factor that large sets of numerical data need to be analysed. Over the last five years major efforts have been made to optimise the early ideas and to develop a software program that is extremely fast, allowing the user to explore and analyse high-dimensional data sets with the use of a normal PC, interactively and in real time.

Qlucore was founded in early 2007 and the first product was released the same year. The latest version of this software, called Qlucore Omics Explorer, is a major step in providing researchers an easy to use and still powerful tool for analysis of large numerical datasets. The combination of best in class visualization, fantastic speed and advanced statistics support and user friendliness puts the user in focus and supports instant analysis and creativity., The visualization methods range from an innovative use of principal component analysis (PCA) to interactive heat maps and flexible scatter plots. All user action is at most two mouse clicks away. The company's early customers are mainly from the Life-science and Biotech industries and they use Qlucore Omics Explorer on gene expression data, protein data, DNA methylated data, micro RNA data and other genomic data. Please read examples of our peer reviewed publications in scientific journals.

About VINNOVA

VINNOVA - Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems - is Sweden's innovation agency. Its mission is to promote sustainable growth by improving the conditions for innovations, as well as funding needs-driven research.

VINNOVA's vision is for Sweden to be a world-leading country in research and innovation, an attractive place in which to invest and conduct business. It promotes collaborations between companies, universities, research institutes and the public sector. It does this by stimulating a greater use of research, by making long-term investment in strong research and innovation milieus and by developing catalytic meeting places. VINNOVA's activities also focus on strengthening international cooperation. In order to increase impact, it is also dedicated to interacting with other research financiers and innovation-promoting organisations.

Every year VINNOVA invests about SEK 2 billion in various initiatives. Since co-financing must total at least the same amount, funds have more than doubled. Funding decisions are made with assistance from national and international experts and there is ongoing monitoring and evaluation of all initiatives. It carries out regular impact analysis to evaluate and draw lessons from the long-term impacts of VINNOVA's efforts.

VINNOVA is a Swedish government agency working under the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications and acts as the national contact agency for the EU Framework Programme for R&D. About 200 people work at VINNOVA's offices in Stockholm and Brussels.

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