

South Lake Union News

Merck Opens New Research Facility in South Lake Union

**More than 275 employees based at new genomics research facility;
South Lake Union thriving as a life sciences center of excellence**

SEATTLE – March 24, 2004 – Vulcan Inc. today announced that Merck & Co. has opened a new life sciences research facility in the heart of Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood.

Local dignitaries including Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and City Council President Jan Drago, attended a dedication ceremony today to welcome Merck to South Lake Union and underscore their support for the life sciences center of excellence emerging in the neighborhood.

The building is the new headquarters for Rosetta Inpharmatics, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Merck, whose scientists leverage technologies such as gene expression profiling to improve the discovery and development of new medicines including cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and obesity.

Merck is leasing the 133,000-square-foot, four-story, state-of-the-art research and office building from Vulcan. More than 275 employees work at the facility, which is located at 401 Terry Avenue North, on the southwest corner of Republican Street and Terry Avenue North. The new facility allows Merck to consolidate all of its Rosetta operations, which were previously housed in five separate locations in Bothell and Kirkland.

The building is known as Interurban Exchange III, which is part of the 500,000-square foot, four-building Interurban Exchange redevelopment project. Schnitzer Northwest and Vulcan are joint venture development partners for the project.

"Merck is pleased and proud to be a part of the growing biotech community in South Lake Union," said Peter S. Kim, Ph.D., president of Merck Research Laboratories. "Our continued presence in the Seattle area underscores the major role that this facility will play in the discovery of the breakthrough new medicines of the future."

Merck's move to the neighborhood is the latest example of the South Lake Union neighborhood's emergence as a thriving life sciences research center. Earlier this month, Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, the nation's largest non-profit research organization that focuses on research to prevent and treat infectious

diseases, moved into a new 112,000-square-foot building, which it will share with a research division of Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

UW Medicine will move into a 105,000-square-foot research facility in late 2004, adding to their current South Lake Union presence in the Rosen Building. UW Medicine also has an option for an additional 700,000 square feet of space. The combined presence of these organizations, along with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and ZymoGenetics, creates an environment of intense life sciences research activity.

"The cutting-edge research that is occurring in all of these new buildings in South Lake Union holds so much hope for improving the quality of human life," said Ada M. Healey, vice president of real estate for Vulcan. "We are proud to be part of these projects that will have a positive impact on the community, and ultimately, global health."

Merck's new building houses molecular biology laboratories, a gene expression profiling facility, data analysis and methods development departments, business offices and a café. It also features a notable art collection featuring the work of local artists.

NBBJ was the project architect and Lease Crutcher Lewis served as the general contractor.

About Vulcan Inc.

Vulcan Inc. creates and advances a variety of world-class endeavors and high-impact initiatives that change and improve the way people live, learn, do business and experience the world. Founded in 1986 by investor and philanthropist Paul G. Allen, and under the direction of president and CEO Jody Patton, Vulcan oversees various business and charitable projects including real estate holdings, investments in more than 50 companies, from Charter Communications, DreamWorks SKG and Digeo Broadband to Sporting News, the Seattle Seahawks NFL and Portland Trail Blazers NBA franchises, First & Goal Inc., Vulcan Productions, the Seattle Cinerama theatre, Experience Music Project and the six Paul G. Allen Foundations. For more information about Vulcan, please visit www.vulcan.com.

