

## GVK Bio acquires Vanta Bioscience

The terms of the deal weren't disclosed



[Yogendra Kalavalapalli](#)

**Hyderabad:** Contract research organization GVK Biosciences Pvt. Ltd on Thursday said it has signed an agreement to acquire Chennai-based **Vanta Bioscience Pvt. Ltd.** The terms of the deal weren't disclosed.

Vanta Bioscience offers toxicology evaluation services, complying with different regulatory guidelines for pharmaceutical, biotech, food supplements and feed additives industries. It also offers toxicology services using alternative methods for the cosmetics industry.

"The acquisition is in line with our business strategy of being an integrated drug discovery services provider for our customers," Manni Kantipudi, chief executive officer of GVK Biosciences, said in a statement. "We are constantly investing in upgrading our capabilities to provide world-class R&D services. Vanta Bioscience further advances our position as we expand our service offering in GLP (good laboratory practices) toxicology."

Vanta Bioscience has a state-of-the-art facility in Gummidipundi in Tamil Nadu and employs GLP-trained scientists with expertise in study design and execution of regulatory directed studies leading to investigational new drug filings, the company said.

"We are delighted to transition into an organization that can expand our offerings and provide further opportunities to our clients and staff," Gerard Schwickerath, vice president and general manager of Vanta Bioscience, said in the statement.

GVK Biosciences had in January acquired US-based **Aragen Bioscience Inc.** for an undisclosed sum.

## Business Standard

### GVK Bio to acquire Vanta Bioscience

**Says it has signed a definitive agreement in this regard**

**BS Reporter | Hyderabad**

**November 6, 2014** Last Updated at 12:26 IST

Hyderabad-based discovery research and development organization, GVK Bio, is set to acquire Vanta Bioscience, a contract research organization operating out of Chennai. The

company said that it has signed a definitive agreement in this regard. The cost of acquisition is not disclosed.

GVK Bio offers toxicology evaluation services for the pharmaceutical, biotech, food supplements and feed additives industries. Vanta Bioscience also offers toxicology services using alternative methods for the cosmetics industry.

"The acquisition is in line with our business strategy of being an integrated drug discovery services provider for our customers. We are constantly investing in upgrading our capabilities to provide world-class R&D services. Vanta Bioscience further advances our position as we expand our service offering in GLP (good laboratory practice) toxicology", GVK Bio chief executive officer, Manni Kantipudi, stated in a press release

"We are delighted to transition into an organization that can expand our offerings and provide further opportunities to our clients and staff", Vanta Bioscience vice president and general manager, Gerard Schwickerath, said.

## Hindu Business Line

### **GVK Bio inks agreement to acquire Vanta Bioscience**

Our Bureau  
Hyderabad, Nov 6:

GVK Bio has announced the signing of a definitive agreement to acquire Vanta Bioscience.

Commenting on the acquisition, Manni Kantipudi, CEO, GVK BIO, said: "The acquisition is in line with our business strategy of being an integrated drug discovery services provider for our customers. We are constantly investing in upgrading our capabilities to provide world-class R&D services. Vanta Bioscience further advances our position as we expand our service offering in GLP toxicology."

The Hyderabad-based company did not disclose the financials of the acquisition. Vanta Bioscience is a contract research organisation. The company offers toxicology evaluation services for the pharmaceutical, biotech, food supplements and feed additives industries. Vanta Bioscience also offers toxicology services using alternative methods for the cosmetics industry.

Gerard Schwickerath, Vice-President and General Manager, Vanta Bioscience said: The company will continue doing its core activity under the direction of GVK BIO and provide further opportunities to our clients and staff.

### **GVK Biosciences buying pre-clinical contract research firm**

#### **Vanta**

**BY BHAWNA GUPTA**

**The firm has been active in striking acquisitions in the recent past.**

Contract research firm GVK Biosciences Pvt Ltd, which operates under the GVK BIO brand, has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Vanta Bioscience for an undisclosed amount, as per a press release.

US-headquartered Vanta has its main operations through research unit in Chennai. It is a full service pre-clinical GLP toxicology and safety assessment contract research company, offering toxicology evaluation services for the pharmaceutical, biotech, food supplements and feed additives industries.

It also offers toxicology services using alternative methods for the cosmetics industry.

“Vanta Bioscience team is pleased that the world-class research GLP and AAALAC accredited organisation will continue under the direction of GVK BIO. We are delighted to transition into an organisation that can expand our offerings and provide further opportunities to our clients and staff,” said Gerard Schwickerath, vice-president and general manager, Vanta Bioscience.

**Manni Kantipudi, CEO, GVK BIO**, said: “The acquisition is in line with our business strategy of being an integrated drug discovery services provider for our customers. We are constantly investing in upgrading our capabilities to provide world-class R&D services. Vanta Bioscience further advances our position as we expand our service offering in GLP toxicology.”

In July this year, GVK completed the acquisition of Inogent Laboratories by acquiring remaining 6.12 per cent stake in the company for Rs 8.9 crore. Last September GVK Biosciences had acquired around 10 per cent more in Inogent from Dai-ichi Karkaria for Rs 8.5 crore.

Earlier this year GVK Bio has signed an agreement to acquire Aragen Bioscience, a US-based privately held pre-clinical CRO specialising in biologics services, for an undisclosed amount.

GVK BIO is a partnership between the GVK Group and DS Brar, former chief of Ranbaxy who led the pharma giant through its big growth and overseas expansion phase before quitting the firm to join GVK BIO as its promoter chairman in 2004.

GVK Group is one of India's largest infrastructure developers, with wide experience and expertise spanning areas such as energy, resources, airports, transportation, hospitality and life-sciences.

*(Edited by Joby Puthuparampil Johnson)*

**Business Wire India**

## **GVK BIO Signs Definitive Agreement to Acquire Vanta**

### **Bioscience**

***The acquisition enables GVK BIO to offer GLP toxicology services for Pharmaceuticals, Agrochemicals, Nutraceuticals, and Cosmetics***

#### **Hyderabad, India**

Asia's leading Discovery Research and Development organization, GVK BIO, announced the signing of a definitive agreement to acquire Vanta Bioscience, a full service preclinical GLP toxicology and safety assessment contract research organization operating out of Chennai, India.

Complying with OECD GLP, ISO, USFDA GLP (21 CFR Part 58 rev. 2009) regulatory guidelines, the company offers toxicology evaluation services for the pharmaceutical, biotech, food supplements and feed additives industries. Vanta Bioscience also offers toxicology services using alternative methods for the Cosmetics industry.

The state-of-the-art facility is GLP and AAALAC accredited, is armed with high-end equipment, and has infrastructure like 'Individually ventilated Cages' and 'Intelligent Building Management' systems. The facility houses GLP trained scientific personnel with experience and expertise in study design and execution of regulatory directed studies leading to IND filings.

Speaking on the occasion, **Manni Kantipudi, CEO, GVK BIO**, said: "The acquisition is in line with our business strategy of being an integrated drug discovery services provider for our customers. We are constantly investing in upgrading our capabilities to provide

world-class R&D services. Vanta Bioscience further advances our position as we expand our service offering in GLP toxicology”.

**Gerard Schwickerath, Vice President and General Manager, Vanta Bioscience**

said: “Vanta Bioscience team is pleased that the world-class research GLP and AAALAC accredited organization will continue under the direction of GVK BIO. We are delighted to transition into an organization that can expand our offerings and provide further opportunities to our clients and staff.”

**About GVK BIO**

*GVK Biosciences (GVK BIO) is Asia’s leading Discovery Research and Development organization. GVK BIO provides a broad spectrum of integrated services across the R&D and manufacturing value chain with a focus on speed and quality. GVK BIO capabilities include Discovery Services, Contract Manufacturing, Formulations, Informatics and Clinical Development. [www.gvkbio.com](http://www.gvkbio.com)*

**About Vanta Bioscience**

*Vanta Bioscience offers safety and efficacy assessment services for clients in the pharmaceutical, biotech, medical device, cosmetics, agriculture, food supplements, feed additives and chemical industries, complying with OECD GLP, ISO, USFDA GLP (21 CFR Part 58 rev. 2009) regulatory guidelines. [www.vantabio.com](http://www.vantabio.com)*