



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Liverpool ChiroChem and Molecular Forecaster announce pilot project to rationally discover novel asymmetric small-molecule catalysts for the synthesis of enantiopure drug candidates**

LIVERPOOL, UK and MONTRÉAL, Québec, Canada – August 19, 2019 – Liverpool ChiroChem, a global expert in the synthesis of chiral N-heterocycle-containing building blocks and fragments, and Molecular Forecaster, a leading scientific software and consulting company accelerating various elements of the drug discovery pipeline, today announced a pilot project collaboration to rationally design, test, and utilize novel asymmetric small molecule catalysts.

Molecular Forecaster will provide computational support, using their unique ACE software tool, to predict highly stereoselective catalysts for a chemical reaction of significant interest to Liverpool ChiroChem and its partners. In turn, Liverpool ChiroChem will perform the syntheses and provide in-house reaction data to support the improvement of computational modeling in a cyclic fashion. Ultimately, should the project be successful, it would be a tour-de-force in asymmetric catalyst design and open doors to new chiral N-heterocycles to be used in drug discovery. The two entities have agreed to publish the outcomes of the project upon its completion.

“Introduction of computational prediction tools is a natural evolution to expand our scientific toolbox and complement our in-house knowhow”, said Paul Colbon, CEO of Liverpool ChiroChem. He continued “I’m delighted to partner with a leading specialist organization in Molecular Forecaster and I believe this will be a long-standing collaboration that will allow both organizations to better serve the life science community and our growing customer bases.”

“This partnership is an incredible opportunity for us to demonstrate prospectively the power of computational tools in synthetic design, and specifically, in asymmetric catalysis. Whereas we have retrospectively evaluated our software’s ability to predict enantioselectivity in a handful of chemical reactions, the proposed work will be the true test. Moreover, a successful pilot lays the groundwork for the long-term plan to create opportunities to reach new areas of chemical space, furthering the drug discovery efforts of the community.” said Josh Pottel, CEO of Molecular Forecaster.

For more information about Liverpool ChiroChem, please visit [www.liverpoolchirochem.com](http://www.liverpoolchirochem.com), and [www.molecularforecaster.com](http://www.molecularforecaster.com) for more information about Molecular Forecaster.

#### CONTACT:

Paul Colbon, PhD  
Liverpool ChiroChem

[paul.colbon@liverpoolchirochem.com](mailto:paul.colbon@liverpoolchirochem.com)

Josh Pottel, PhD  
Molecular Forecaster

[josh.pottel@molecularforecaster.com](mailto:josh.pottel@molecularforecaster.com)