

## COMET CENTRE (K1)

### RESEARCH CENTER PHARMACEUTICAL ENGINEERING GMBH

#### RESEARCH PROGRAMME: RCPE – RESEARCH CENTER PHARMACEUTICAL ENGINEERING

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**Main location:** Graz (Styria)

**Other locations:** none

**Thematic area:** Life Sciences



#### Thematic focuses

- Pharmaceutical product development
- (Continuous) pharmaceutical manufacture
- Simulation & Prediction
- Analytical process technology
- Novel manufacturing technology
- Innovative dosage forms

#### Planned realisation and outcomes

The Research Center Pharmaceutical Engineering (RCPE) combines approaches from process engineering, pharmaceutical science, chemistry and biotechnology to a coherent and holistic foundation for innovation of pharmaceutical process and product development. This fosters the transformation towards patient-centric and personalized healthcare and medicines. Besides innovative dosage forms or applications and flexible production technologies, the center also focuses on the implementation and further development of continuous manufacturing together with modern control and quality assessment technologies to create an economically and ecologically more sustainable pharmaceutical production and to strengthen the competitive position of Austria.

#### History of establishment

Since its establishment as a K1 Comet Center of Excellence on July 1st, 2008, the RCPE GmbH, in ownership of TU Graz (65%), University of Graz (20%) and Joanneum Research (15%), conducts joint research projects for process and product optimization with the world's leading pharmaceutical companies, engineering companies and innovative startups. As a pioneer in pharmaceutical engineering, it has successfully established itself as a unique center with extraordinary capabilities. Over 150 researchers and a network of more than 150 partners are not just essential for our scientific work, but close collaboration allows for a rapid and seamless transition to industry-ready applications. A project volume of 14 Mio EUR (2020/2021) is a testimony to our remarkable results and trust of our corporate partners.

## COMET FACTSHEET

### Selected company partners (max. 10):

1. Boehringer Ingelheim
2. AVL List
3. Siemens
4. G.L. Pharma
5. ZETA
6. VTU Engineering
7. F. Hoffmann – La Roche
8. F. Hoffmann – La Roche
9. Merck
10. Novartis

### Selected scientific partners (max. 5):

1. Technical University of Denmark
2. Tel Aviv University
3. Luxembourg Institute of Technology and Science
4. Graz University of Technology
5. Karl-Franzens- University

### Selected international<sup>1</sup> partners (max. 5):

1. Janssen Pharmaceuticals
2. GSK
3. AstraZeneca
4. Pfizer
5. Rutgers University

**Duration:** 01.07.2021 - 30.06.2023 (8 years)

**Staff employed at the Centre:** 99.15 FTE, thereof 61.24 scientists

**Management:** Prof. Dr. Johannes Khinast, Scientific Director  
Dr. Thomas Klein, Business Director

**Contact:** Research Center Pharmaceutical Engineering GmbH  
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Status 29.07.2021

The COMET Centre is funded within COMET – Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies – by BMK, BMDW as well as the co-financing federal province of Styria. The COMET programme is managed by FFG.

[www.ffg.at/comet](http://www.ffg.at/comet)

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<sup>1</sup> Partners with headquarters outside Austria