



**DR. ERIC NOTEGEN, CHIEF PATENT OFFICER,
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Eric Notegen studied organic chemistry at the University of Basel and completed the studies with a thesis on the partial synthesis of macrocyclic lactones in 1979. At the beginning of 1980, Dr. Notegen joined the patent department of F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd as a trainee patent attorney and qualified in 1984 as a European Patent Attorney. During 11 years he worked as a patent attorney in the field of pharmaceuticals, especially, central nervous system (benzodiazepines) and antibiotics (cephalosporins and mono- β -lactams). He assumed responsibility for the field of diagnostics as head of a patent section in early 1991. Until the end of 1993 he handled all the patents relating to the Polymerase Chain Reaction, a technology that revolutionized biotechnology research and the field of diagnostics and for which the inventor, Dr. Kary B. Mullis, was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1993. In January 1994 Dr. Notegen became head of the patent department at Roche's headquarter in Basel and since March 2000 he is leading the global corporate patent function of the Roche group as Chief Patent Officer. From 1996 to 2008 he was also a member of the council of the Swiss Intellectual Property Institute. He is chairman of the Expert Group on Intellectual Property of *economiesuisse*, the leading Swiss industry and trade association.