



## BIOTECHNOLOGY LABORATORIES OF THE SLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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Šarišské Michaľany, Slovak Republic

**BLOCK**<sup>®</sup>  
Clean Room Solutions

VYBUDOVANIE CENTRA VÝSKUMU  
A VÝVOJA IMUNOLOGICKY  
AKTÍVNYCH LÁTOK V  
ŠARIŠSKÝCH MICHALANOCH

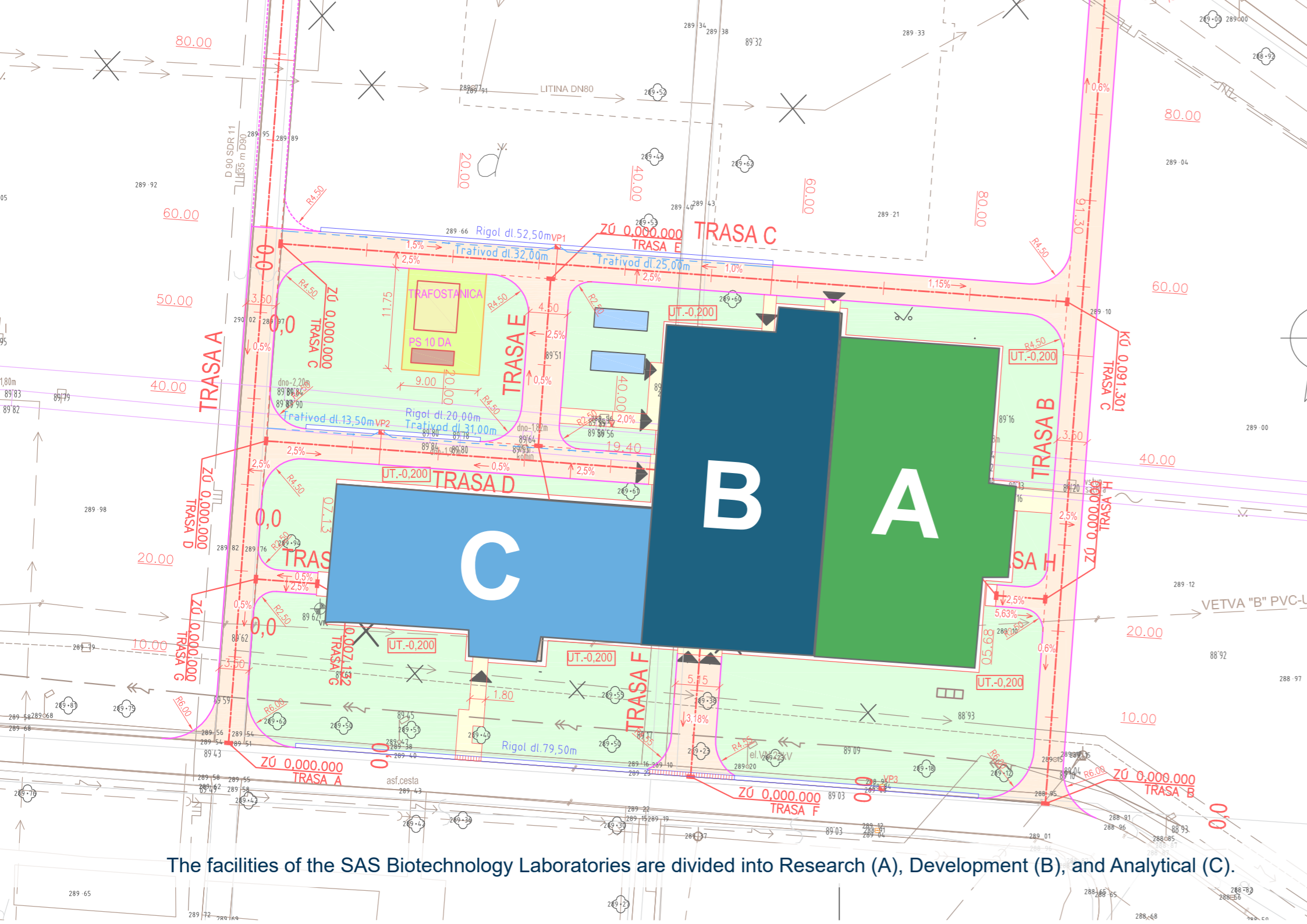


**BLOCK**

- Termin realizácie •  
7/2014 – 6/2015
- Investor •  
Slovenská akadémia vied
- Generálni zhotoviteľ •  
BLOCK® a.s. – zriaďovateľ  
organizačnej zložky, ako  
vedúci účastník združenia
- Generálni projektant •  
BLOCK® a.s.

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# SAS BIOTECHNOLOGY LABORATORIES

UNIQUE HIGH-TECH LABORATORY FACILITIES FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND BIOPHARMACEUTICAL CHARACTERISATION UNDER ASEPTIC CONDITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH LABORATORY AND GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES.

The facilities of the SAS Biotechnology Laboratories are divided into Research (A), Development (B), and Analytical (C).



## BACKGROUND AND FOUNDATION OF BTL

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Contemporary biomedical research both shapes innovation within the pharmaceutical industry as well as responding to its requirements.

New, safer, and more effective biopharmaceuticals are developed and prepared using modern biotechnological methods.

Based on the output of science and research, the pharmaceutical industry plays a significant role in the recovery and sustainability of economic growth in the European Union.

Slovakia is one of several EU countries that lag behind in their ability to effectively transfer the latest findings of biological and medical research into practice, which results in the pharmaceutical industry contributing significantly less than it could have been to the national economy.



## OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF BTL

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The Biotechnology Laboratories lead the way in research and development with the objectives and scope of increasing the quality of applied research in the development of biologically active substances with therapeutic effects or diagnostic uses, increasing the quality of technological processes and their preparation and analysis, and safeguarding effective transfer of acquired knowledge into practice.

Equipping of the Biotechnology Laboratories with modern infrastructure creates ideal conditions for the preparation, realisation, and implementation of domestic and foreign scientific research projects in the area of applied biological research. The professional and technical capabilities of the facilities provide the opportunity and environment for further education and professional growth of employees and students in the field of modern applied biological research.

The objectives and scope of the centre are also to expand scientific research cooperation between academic and commercial institutes both nationally and throughout the EU.



## ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BTL

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The SAS Biotechnology Laboratories were built with financial support from the EU and the Slovak Republic as the outcome of the project “Centre for the research and development of immunologically active substances” (ITMS code 26220220188), co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund under measure OPVaV-2013 / 2.2.



Ministry of Education,  
Science, Research and Sport  
of the Slovak Republic



BTL SAS are part of the Department of Biotechnology Applications at the SAS Biomedical Research Centre, Institute of Virology, at its remote site in Šarišské Michaľany.

BTL SAS are open for cooperation with academic and industry partners in the field of applied biomedical research and development.



# SAS

## THE SLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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The Slovak Academy of Sciences is an autonomous scientific institute focused on the development of science, education, culture, and economy. The primary aim of SAS and its organisations is to implement basic and applied research in a wide range of technical and natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences. Through its research, SAS seeks to develop knowledge at an international level while respecting the current needs of Slovak society and national culture. The organisations of the Academy cooperate with universities involved in education, especially the education of young scientists, as well as the pedagogical activity of universities. Through bilateral and multilateral domestic and international scientific projects, particularly those with EU funding, and through membership of international associations and institutes, SAS is developing extensive international cooperation and so places Slovak science in a transnational context.



# PROJECT TIMELINE 01



# REALISATION OF THE RESEARCH CENTRE BUILDINGS TOOK PLACE OVER **12** MONTHS

**12/2013**

- Notice of open competition for construction of the buildings according to the FIDIC Yellow Book (project and build).
- Investors provide a requirement specification for the three connected buildings, including situation, building design specification, and a list of technologies.



**03/2014**

- Notice of the results of the selection process.



**06/2014**

- First stage of the project for realisation of the construction is completed - groundworks project and reinforced concrete frame project.

**PROJECT  
TIMELINE**



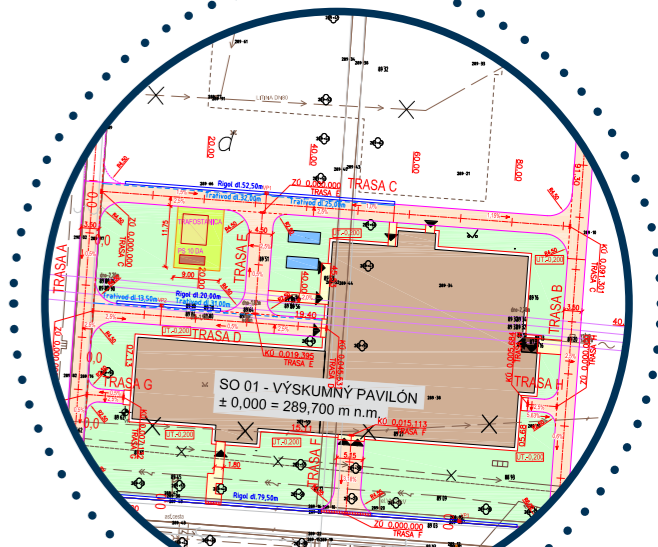
**02/2014**

- The BLOCK® proposal is submitted including layout design and schematics for pharmaceutical utilities and HVAC according to GMP guidelines.



**04/2014**

- Work begins on the project for realisation of the construction.



03/2014

04/2014

06/2014



**FOUNDATIONS**

**08/2014**

- Completion of bored piles foundation and work starts on erection of the reinforced concrete frame.



**SUBSTRUCTURE**

**10/2014**

- Completion of the project for realisation of the construction.
- Work starts on building cladding.



**CLADDING**

07/2014

08/2014

09/2014

10/2014

11/2014

**07/2014**

- The building site is received including valid permission (arranged by the investor).
- On **14/07/2014 building work starts** - site preparation and laying of foundations.



**BUILDING FRAME**

**09/2014**

- Second stage of the project for realisation of the construction is completed.
  - building envelope, utilities, and boiler room.
- Completion of reinforced concrete frame.
- Interior building works begin.



**ROOF**

**11/2014**

- Coordination of construction documentation with selected suppliers of technology directly purchased by the investor.
- Based on final documentation for building realisation, "documentation for the change of construction prior to finishing" was processed, based upon which the building authority issued approval.
- Installation of roof cladding and completion of building cladding.

**HVAC**



MOVING OF CHILLERS  
TRANSFORMER STATION



COOLING MACHINE ROOM



INTERIOR CONSTRUCTION, CLEAN ROOMS



INSTALLATION OF TECHNOLOGY  
AND COMPLETION OF INTERIOR  
FITTINGS



12/2014

01/2015

02/2015

03/2015

04/2015

HVAC

HVAC

- 12/2014
- Completion of roof cladding, closing of the building (windows and doors), and building heating is started.



BOILER ROOM, REGULATION UNITS + COOLERS,  
FITTING OF BUILDING AND TECHNOLOGY INSTALLATIONS



**05/2015**

- Building approval procedure initiated and approval granted with a certificate of occupancy.
- Validation procedure initiated.



**09/2015**

- Building enters operation, including validation protocols.



- On **15/06/2015**, the building **is handed over** in time according to Contract for work, i.e. within 343 days of receipt of the building site.



# REALISATION OF THE RESEARCH CENTRE BUILDINGS TOOK PLACE OVER **12** MONTHS



# FINAL BUILDING 02

# BUILDING

## Architectural design of the building

The architectural design respects and reflects that the research centre consists of three independent operational sections with their own separate entrances for employees and materials. Entrance to each section is achieved via an external enclosed staircase.

Separation of the centre into individual sections is reflected in the structural differentiation of each part, and also the use of two types of wall cladding: the three-floor sections are completed with vertical panels while the two-floor sections completed with horizontal panels. The facade is finished in three colours: light grey, dark grey, and black. The alternating of coloured vertical and horizontal lines forms a colour structure across the facade. This structure disguises window and HVAC ventilation openings that are determined by the internal layout and positioning of technology, and that would otherwise make the exterior of the building look somewhat chaotic.

The building consists of two structural expansion units, while the layout is divided into three sections:

- **A (Research Laboratories)**, with three floors
- **B (Development Laboratories)**, with two floors
- **C (Analytical Laboratories)**, with three floors



# BUILDING



**Európska únia**  
Európsky fond regionálneho rozvoja

*Podporujeme  
výskumné  
aktivity  
na Slovensku*

*Projekt je  
spolufinancovaný  
zo zdrojov  
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MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVA,  
VEDY, VÝSKUMU A ŠPORTU  
SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY

**Názov projektu:**  
**Centrum výskumu  
a vývoja imunologicky aktívnych látok**

**Dátum začatia realizácie:** 03/2014  
**Dátum ukončenia realizácie:** 09/2015  
**Prijímateľ:** Slovenská akadémia vied  
**Partner:** Virologický ústav SAV  
**Miesto realizácie projektu:** Saničné Michalany  
**ITMS:** 26220220188  
**Výška spolufinancovania z EÚ:** 21 246 356,46 EUR

**Predmet realizovaného projektu:**  
Hlavným cieľom realizácie projektu je vybudovanie  
Centra pre výskum a vývoj imunologicky aktívnych látok.



Operačný program  
VÝSKUM A VÝVOJ



# A SECTION RESEARCH

**The BTL Research Laboratories** are divided into four separate units (A1, A2, A3, and A4) according to the work they are used for. There are clean rooms within each unit for work under aseptic conditions. This provides the circumstances for research and development activities that allow for Good Manufacturing Practise (GMP) certification of the laboratories.

The BTL Research Laboratories are focused on the research and development of:

- **biopharmaceuticals produced in eukaryotic systems (A1);**
- **new viral vaccines with emphasis placed on their effective preparation, and superior efficacy and safety (A4);**
- **therapeutic compounds of a bacteriological origin (A3);**
- **the final formulation of the above mentioned bioactive substances with a focus on their stability and increased efficacy (A2).**





**Section A – Research Laboratories – first floor part A1**  
**Research into biopharmaceuticals in eukaryotic systems**

This hygiene class “C” part of the research unit consists of three processing areas. The section is used in the preparation of eukaryotic cells for subsequent use in infectious and non-infectious parts of the research and development “centre”. Open handling of cells (GMO2) is carried out using secure laminar boxes. The purpose of this section is the development of effective methods for production of immunologically active macromolecules, with the aim of optimising technological processes with a focus on the use of bioreactors. Optimisation of purification processes and development of biopharmaceutical formulations takes place during the final stage.

- ✓ Development and formulation of biopharmaceuticals in eukaryotic systems
- ✓ Growth factors
- ✓ Antibodies
- ✓ Immunomodulators

**Section A – Research – first floor part A2**  
**Filling of biopharmaceuticals and inactive vaccines, and media preparation**

This part of the research unit includes a filling room with hygiene class “A/B”, and areas for washing, formulation, sterilisation, preparation of media, weighing, and related material and personnel entry rooms with hygiene class “C” or “B”. In future, there is the possibility of lyophilised production, necessitating the addressing of intended locations for the lyophilisation equipment and deep freezer.

- ✓ Formulation of biopharmaceuticals with improved stability and efficacy

**A** SECTION  
FIRST FLOOR  
RESEARCH



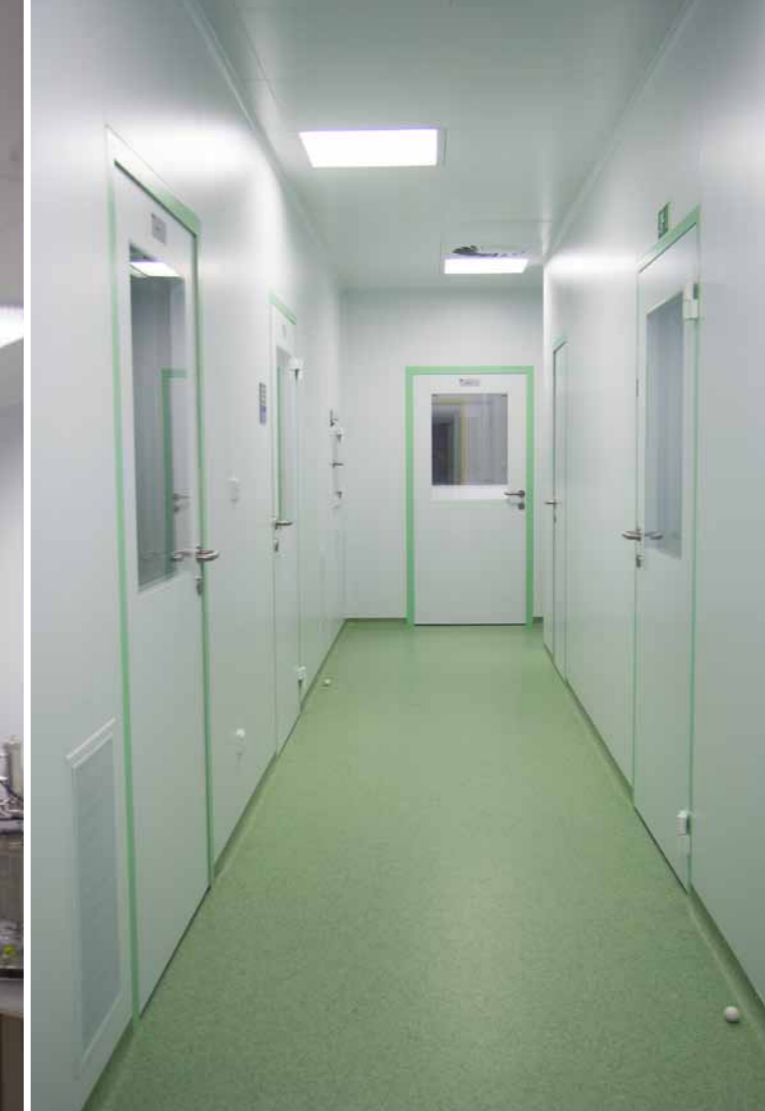
**A** SECTION  
FIRST FLOOR  
RESEARCH



# A SECTION

FIRST FLOOR

RESEARCH



**A** SECTION  
FIRST FLOOR  
RESEARCH





## Section A – Research – second floor part A4 Research into eukaryotic vaccines

This operational unit for research into vaccines against viral infections is separated into infectious and non-infectious zones, with both having hygiene class “C”. The infectious zone consists of rooms for the preparation and primary propagation of viral vaccines and preparation of pilot virus batches, a darkened room for the scanning of eggs, and areas for antigen enrichment, clarification, concentration, and inactivation. The purification and formulation of vaccine antigens take place in the non-infectious zone where process methods will be developed and optimised. The infectious zone of the section for the production of eukaryotic vaccines must fulfil Biosafety level BSL2. There is an isolator for work categorised as Biosafety level BSL3 located in this area.

- ✓ Safer and more effective viral vaccines

## Section A – Research – second floor part A3 Research into antimicrobial substances in prokaryotes

This operational unit for preparation and production of prokaryotic immunologically active substances consists of infectious and non-infectious zones, with both having hygiene class “C”. There is also a room for subcultures, which has hygiene class “B”. The infectious zone consists of areas for work with strains and cultivation of subcultures. The non-infectious zone includes a purification room and wash area. The infectious zone fulfils Biosafety level BSL2.

- ✓ Therapeutic and diagnostic compounds of a bacteriological origin

**A** SECTION  
SECOND FLOOR  
RESEARCH



**A** SECTION  
SECOND FLOOR  
RESEARCH





**A** SECTION  
SECOND FLOOR  
RESEARCH



**A** SECTION  
SECOND FLOOR  
RESEARCH



# B SECTION

DEVELOPMENT



The **BTL Development Laboratories** are dedicated to the upscaling of development activities in the field of preparation of new prophylactic compounds and are divided into an active part for work with active biological material, and an inactive part.

# B SECTION FIRST FLOOR

DEVELOPMENT

## Section B – Development – First floor Active part

The following processes are carried out in the active part:

- viral cultivation, receipt and inspection of incoming raw and intermediate materials;
- virus propagation using thermal chambers;
- inoculation of eggs and harvesting of allantoic fluid using a combined instrument;
- inoculum preparation;
- virus inactivation.

A steam autoclave is used in combination with the cleaning and sterilisation of containers for inactivation of produced waste.

## Section B – Development – First floor Inactive part

This unit is used for working with already inactivated viruses, with a specialised purification laboratory and an area for cleaning and sterilisation of centrifuge components and other laboratory devices.

There are further auxiliary technical rooms for PWA and water cooling machinery, WFI + PS and CIP/SIP machinery, and a central gas boiler.

# B SECTION FIRST FLOOR DEVELOPMENT



# B SECTION FIRST FLOOR DEVELOPMENT



# B SECTION FIRST FLOOR DEVELOPMENT



The **Analytical Laboratories** are divided into sections according to methodological focus and include a Documentation Department.

The BTL Analytical Laboratories provide:

- development and validation of new analytical methods for testing the efficacy of newly developed biologically active substances in vitro, and the qualitative and quantitative determination of their composition, the content of the active substance, and purity and sterility;
- implementation of new instruments and their validation and effective use in practice;
- analyses and control of outputs and activities conducted in the research and development laboratories:
  - physicochemical analysis,
  - microbiological analysis,
  - virology analysis,
  - molecular biological analysis;
- the processing, recording, and storage of all documentation related to BTL activity.





### SECTION C – Analytical Laboratories – First floor

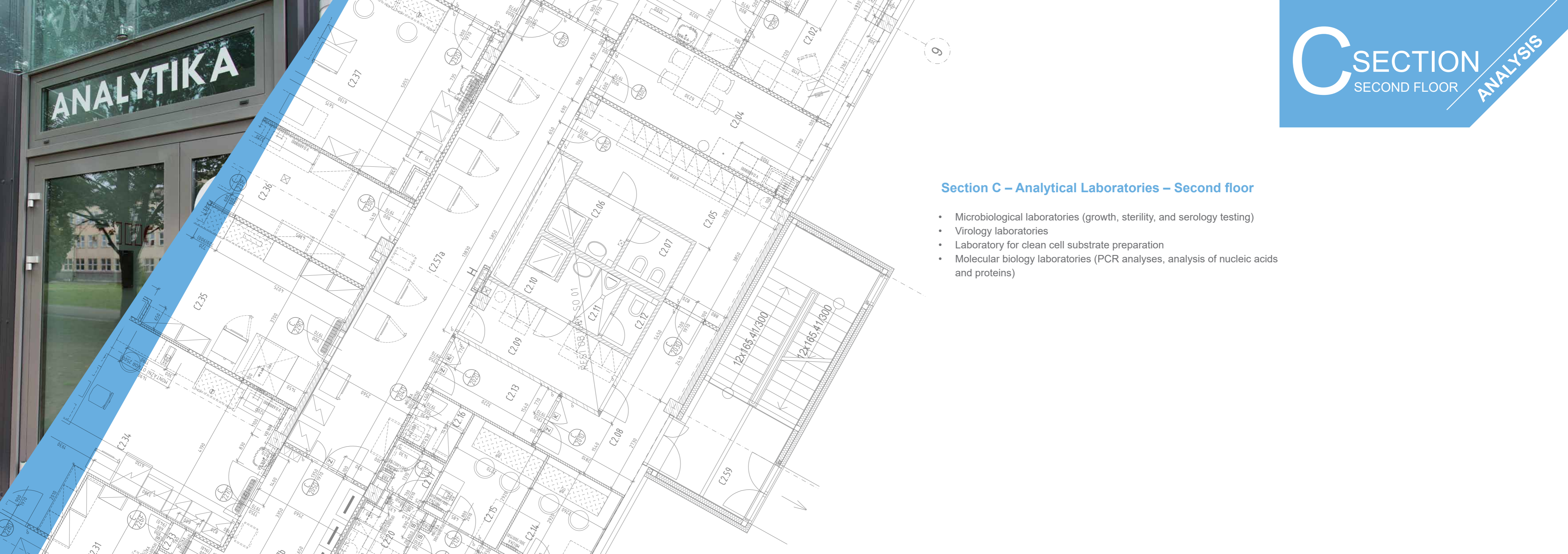
- Chemical analysis laboratories, i.e. laboratories for pH, TOC, and PLF control
- Classical methods laboratories – physical, and physicochemical methods
- Laboratory for the determination of bacterial endotoxins
- Laboratory for chemical analysis
- Physical methods laboratory – absorption spectroscopy and Hg determination
- Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) laboratory – analytical chemistry, polarimetry methods, and High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)

# C SECTION FIRST FLOOR ANALYSIS



**C** SECTION  
FIRST FLOOR  
ANALYSIS





# C SECTION SECOND FLOOR ANALYSIS

## Section C – Analytical Laboratories – Second floor

- Microbiological laboratories (growth, sterility, and serology testing)
- Virology laboratories
- Laboratory for clean cell substrate preparation
- Molecular biology laboratories (PCR analyses, analysis of nucleic acids and proteins)

C SECTION  
SECOND FLOOR  
ANALYSIS





# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

HVAC MACHINE ROOMS



# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

HVAC ON THE ROOF





# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

COOLING MACHINE ROOM  
WATER TREATMENT



# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

BOILER ROOM



# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

TRANSFORMER STATION



# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

CHILLER



# TECHNICAL FACILITIES

## LIGHTNING RODS





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