



CONTENTS



24 The axon of a nerve cell uses a growth cone to search for its target.

06 With more risk capital, it would be easier for ideas from basic research to be put to practical use.

Max Planck Innovation

The technology transfer organization of the Max Planck Society has forged a link between science and business since 1970. Max Planck Innovation advises and supports Max Planck scientists in assessing the potential of an invention and applying for patents. It also markets patents, technologies and know-how to industry and is on hand to help new entrepreneurs set up their business who convert the research results from the Max Planck Society into products and services.

VIEWPOINT

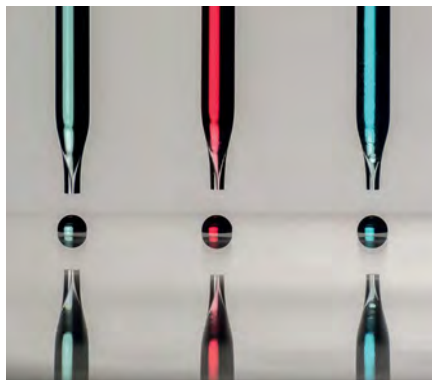
06 We have to do a better job of utilizing our own ideas
The first findings from basic research are leading to real new developments for the world of tomorrow and beyond.

SUCCESS STORIES

- 12 A live link to the root of the disease**
Thanks to Jens Frahm, doctors are now better able to diagnose a large number of diseases using magnetic resonance imaging.
- 18 Brake for breast cancer**
Herceptin and Sutent are among the most successful drugs that have been developed in Max Planck Institutes.
- 24 Molecular bright spots**
A team led by Stefan Hell has developed fluorescence microscopes with the highest resolution to date. The devices are being marketed by Abberior Instruments.



44 Katharina Landfester is researching new applications for nanocapsules in industry and medicine.



54 Scienion prints biomolecules on carrier media – and has now become very successful in this area.



58 An Evotec scientist during an electrophysiological experiment.

FROM IDEAS TO PRODUCTS

- 32** Avatars for everyone
- 33** Reliable DNA copier
- 33** Gene ferries for plant breeding
- 34** New drug class
- 35** Corrosion protection to order
- 35** Cure for leishmaniasis
- 36** Privacy protection in data treasure troves
- 36** Cold plasma to combat germs
- 37** Light combs as yardsticks
- 37** Genetic fingerprinting

SCIENTIST & ENTREPRENEUR

- 40** **Just a spoonful of sugar**
Personal portrait: Peter Seeberger
- 44** **The all-purpose capsule**
Personal portrait:
Katharina Landfester
- 50** **The profiler**
Personal portrait: Lothar Willmitzer

COMPANY PORTRAIT

- 54** **A spin-off adventure**
Scienion produces biochips for pregnancy tests or cancer diagnoses. The company went through its ups and downs before finding its market.
- 58** **Drug evolution riding high**
The biotech company Evotec, which offers automated drug screening, employs 3,000 people and is listed on the MDAX stock index.

PERSPECTIVES

- 64** Order is half the battle
- 64** Making the leap to quantum security
- 65** Ivory from a test tube
- 66** Gentle electrical pulses
- 67** You are the bus stop!
- 68** Phantoms for surgeons
- 68** A copper fleece for batteries
- 69** Effective against tuberculosis and cancer
- 70** A hot drug
- 70** Measles against cancer
- 71** Deformed proteins

INTERVIEW

- 72** **“The LDC bridges the valley of death”**
Bert Klebl explains how the Lead Discovery Center uses the results of basic research to develop interesting drug candidates for the pharmaceutical industry.

REGULAR FEATURES

- 03** **Editorial**
- 10** **Flashback**
50 years of Max Planck Innovation
- 38** **Infographic**
From the lab to the pharmacy
- 78** **Facts and figures**
- 79** **Research Establishments**
- 79** **Publisher's Information**