

Press release

Vetter's Chicago Site Celebrates Ten-Year Anniversary

Facility has doubled in size since its 2009 inception

Skokie, Illinois, December 10, 2019 – [Vetter's US clinical manufacturing facility](#) located at the [Illinois Science + Technology Park](#) held an anniversary celebration on December 6 marking its 10-year arrival in the country. [Vetter](#) is a globally operating Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) headquartered in Ravensburg, Germany, and a leader in prefilled drug delivery systems. In addition to recognizing its ten-year inauguration, the family owned company also celebrated being awarded recently as one of ["Chicago's Best and Brightest Companies to Work For®"](#). The award is given in recognition of those companies that make for better business, creating richer lives and building a stronger community as a whole.

At the time of its creation the Skokie facility employed approximately 15 German expats to support the setting up of the core processes at the site. The strategy executed by the company was to replace them over time with local experts. Today, the facility has a working staff of around 100 employees, almost all of whom are from the US. In addition to its growing employee population, the facility has also doubled in size from its original 24,000 sq. ft. to 50,000 sq. ft. today.

"Our Skokie facility is a clear demonstration of the successful strategy we put into place in the second half of the 2000s," said Vetter Managing Director Thomas Otto in addressing attendees at the event. "That strategy was to be closer to the injectable development projects taking place in the US. The facility is also further proof of our family related business philosophy. By bringing expats to the facility first, and then gradually transitioning primarily to local employees, we created strong intercultural teams and secured knowledge transfer from our German specialists to our US experts."

"The employees of Vetter have been involved members of our community since the company's arrival at the technology park in 2009," said Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen, "Vetter has been an important business in the community of Skokie and its employees have always demonstrated good citizenship through active involvement in the Skokie Chamber of Commerce and other village related activities."

The anniversary was attended by staff members and their spouses as well as by further key individuals from Vetter's headquarters which included members of the Vetter Family, namely Dr. Cornelia Vetter-Kerkhoff and Wolfgang Kerkhoff. Also in attendance was the site's first president, Dr. Claudia Roth, who was responsible for its initial construction and the first five years of expansion, and Dr. Claus Feussner, who is responsible for the company's global Development Service business. Today, the facility is under the direction of Dr. Susanne Lemaine, who relocated from Vetter in Germany to the United States in 2010 and was among the first employees to help establish the Chicago facility. Prior to becoming site president, Dr. Lemaine worked as a manager for Process Development and Manufacturing at the facility.

Founded as a modest pharmacy in Ravensburg, Germany, in 1950, Vetter has grown from a local packager to a world-leading contract development and manufacturing organization, today serving biotechnology and pharmaceutical customers both large and small.



Vetter Managing Director Thomas Otto
Picture source: Vetter Pharma International GmbH

About Vetter

Headquartered in Ravensburg, Germany, Vetter is a global leading contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) with production facilities in Germany and the United States. Currently employing [4,600 individuals worldwide](#), the company has long-term experience in supporting biotechnology and pharmaceutical customers both large and small. Vetter [services](#) range from early stage development support including [clinical manufacturing](#), to [commercial supply](#) and [numerous packaging solutions](#) for vials, syringes and cartridges. As a leading solution provider, Vetter appreciates its responsibility to support the needs of its customers by developing devices that contribute to increased patient safety, convenience, and enhanced compliance. Great importance is also given to [social responsibility](#) including environmental protection and sustainability. Learn more about Vetter at www.vetter-pharma.com.

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