

StemLife inks long-term supply deal with Swiss-based firm

KUALA LUMPUR: StemLife Bhd has signed a long-term supply agreement with Switzerland-based Biosafe Group in respect of StemLife's cord blood banking activities in Malaysia.

Under the agreement, Biosafe Group, who is active in the design, manufacture and marketing of automated cell processing systems, will supply its fully automated Sepax cell processor and associated single use kits to StemLife for all its cord blood processing requirements with immediate effect.

Today, most Netcord-affiliated public cord blood banks use Biosafe technology for processing, as do quality-conscious private cord blood banks around the world.

In a statement yesterday, StemLife chief executive officer (CEO) Sophian Abdul Rahman said Biosafe's strong local support to ensure that StemLife would continue to provide peace of mind to all its clients that their cord blood units would always

be processed in a timely and reliable manner.

"We are delighted to be entering into a long-term agreement with such a prestigious company as StemLife. This is an important win for us as we are replacing a competitor's cell processing system, further increasing our footprint in Asia," said Biosafe Group CEO Olivier Waridel.

StemLife was founded in 2001 and was the first cord blood bank in Malaysia. It was also the first and only listed cord blood bank in Malaysia since 2006. Collectively, more than 60,000 families have entrusted their baby's cord stem cells in its Malaysia and Thailand facilities.

In 2014, Cordlife Group Ltd took a

31 per cent stake in StemLife Malaysia, making StemLife part of the largest cord blood banking group in Southeast Asia with more than 120,000 cord blood units stored.

To date, StemLife has successfully released 15 cord blood units for transplantation.

Biosafe Group, founded in 1997, is active in the design, manufacture and marketing of automated cell processing systems.

Headquartered in Switzerland, privately-owned Biosafe Group operates through regional subsidiaries in Geneva, Houston, Hong Kong, Shanghai and São Paulo, which is present in more than 50 countries, either directly or through distributors.

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Olivier Waridel
Biosafe Group
chief executive officer