Lithuanian Biotech Firm Genomika Joins DiDAX Project, Bolstering DNA Data Storage Innovation

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Genomika, a leading Lithuanian biotech company, announced today its participation in the groundbreaking DiDAX project, committing €600,000 to the initiative's total budget of €5.2 million. This collaboration marks a significant step forward in the development of DNA-based data storage, a technology poised to revolutionize long-term data preservation.

Unlike traditional methods that require frequent updates and replacements, DNA-based storage offers unparalleled stability, with data integrity potentially lasting for centuries or even millennia. Genomika's contribution to the DiDAX project will focus on developing **compact and efficient DNA reading methods**. These innovations are particularly crucial for specialized environments, including space applications, where the bulk and complexity of conventional laboratory equipment are impractical. The aim is to eliminate the need for bulky centrifuges and other large lab equipment, making DNA data retrieval feasible in confined or remote settings.

Genomika's involvement in DiDAX builds upon its existing leadership in an EU-funded Pathfinder initiative. This earlier project is focused on developing the hardware components for end-to-end DNA data storage systems. With combined grant funding across both projects now exceeding €10 million, Genomika is solidifying its position as a key player in this nascent, high-growth field.

"Our participation in DiDAX represents the natural evolution of our work in DNA data storage," stated Robertas Skliaustas, Head of Business Development at Genomika. "While our first project focused on building the foundation of DNA storage hardware, this collaboration allows us to optimize the software components and develop practical applications for diverse environments."

Further underscoring Genomika’s leadership in the field, Mr. Skliaustas was recently appointed as a Board Member of the DNA Data Storage Alliance, representing Genomika and the wider European Innovation Council ecosystem. Genomika’s inclusion marks the first Lithuanian presence within this advanced research community.

The DiDAX consortium is also exploring various practical implementations of DNA storage technology, including the innovative concept of **in-product information storage**. This application envisions physical items containing embedded DNA that stores comprehensive details about their production, components, and usage instructions, opening new avenues for product lifecycle management and authenticity verification.