



Lier Chemical maps synthetic biology growth strategy with China resources double-crane

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Company outlines three-pronged synergy spanning R&D industrialization, bio-chemical engineering integration and global market expansion as new strategic shareholder partnership takes shape



Lier Chemical has unveiled the strategic roadmap underpinning its partnership with new shareholder China Resources Double-Crane, positioning the collaboration as a long-term platform to accelerate synthetic biology commercialization while expanding into next-generation bio-based industries. During a recent institutional investor briefing, Lier Chemical's management detailed the strategic rationale behind the partnership, emphasizing complementary capabilities rather than overlapping investments. The alliance seeks to combine China Resources Double-Crane's growing synthetic biology research pipeline with Lier Chemical's large-scale manufacturing infrastructure and global agrochemical market presence.

The strategy reflects a broader shift underway across China's life sciences and crop protection industries, where companies are increasingly seeking to integrate laboratory innovation with industrial-scale production to shorten commercialization cycles and improve returns on biotechnology investments.

Bridging the Commercialization Gap

Since entering the synthetic biology sector in 2022, China Resources Double-Crane has rapidly expanded its research capabilities. The company established a dedicated synthetic biology research institute in 2023, assembling more than 100 researchers and developing seven technology platforms supporting products across insecticides, fungicides and biostimulants.

However, management acknowledged that translating laboratory breakthroughs into commercially viable products requires industrial capabilities extending beyond research, including manufacturing expertise, regulatory compliance, production scale-up and international distribution. Lier Chemical provides that missing industrial backbone.

The company has developed one of China's largest integrated manufacturing platforms for glufosinate-ammonium and L-glufosinate-ammonium technical materials, supported by engineering strain development, pilot-scale validation, industrial fermentation, enzyme catalysis and bio-chemical process integration. By combining these capabilities, the partnership aims to establish an end-to-end innovation ecosystem where China Resources Double-Crane focuses on upstream technology development while Lier Chemical drives downstream manufacturing and commercialization.

Three Strategic Synergies

Lier Chemical outlined three principal areas where the collaboration is expected to create long-term value. The first is faster commercialization of innovation. Synthetic biology products developed by China Resources Double-Crane can move more rapidly from laboratory research into commercial production through Lier Chemical's established manufacturing platform, reducing development timelines and accelerating market entry.

The second focuses on engineering integration. Management expects deeper convergence between synthetic biology and chemical manufacturing technologies, enabling more efficient production processes and improving commercialization economics for bio-based crop protection products. The third centers on global market expansion. Both companies possess established international marketing and distribution networks, creating opportunities to jointly commercialize new products across overseas markets while strengthening China's position in the global agricultural biotechnology value chain.

Avoiding Capital Duplication

Executives also stressed that the partnership is designed around capital efficiency rather than parallel investment. Instead of building duplicate infrastructure, both companies will leverage existing platforms and focus investment on their respective competitive strengths. This asset-light collaborative model is intended to accelerate innovation while reducing development costs.

Looking ahead, Lier Chemical plans to strengthen its leadership in glufosinate-ammonium and L-glufosinate-ammonium while expanding into broader synthetic biology applications, including animal nutrition, plant nutrition, personal care ingredients and bio-based materials. The strategy reflects an industry-wide transition in which synthetic biology is evolving from a niche research discipline into a scalable industrial platform capable of reshaping multiple sectors beyond agriculture.

As biotechnology and chemical manufacturing continue to converge, the partnership positions Lier Chemical to capture opportunities emerging from the next generation of sustainable industrial production, while providing China Resources Double-Crane with the commercialization capabilities needed to translate research into global business growth.