

Hyris completes Series A Round lead by Astanor Ventures to become the leader in portable PCR industry

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Hyris has successfully completed a Series A round led by Astanor Ventures, a venture capital firm investing 'where tech meets nature,' and with participation from a strategic pool of Italian investors, including NEOS Medica, Idb Holding, the holding company controlling Indena, and Pi Campus, a VC firm that invests in Al-applied startups and Italian excellence.

Hyris has built a leading integrated platform for DNA testing. With food adulteration scandals on the rise in all parts of the world, and more companies laser-focused on quality assurance and supply chain transparency, Hyris offers high efficacy lab-quality testing that's more convenient and more scalable than existing options. Hyris aims to create global impact by providing the industries it serves the first at-scale library of food safety data. It does this through its distributed network of bKITS bespoke sets of reagents for specific DNA sequences, and bCUBE, a miniaturized portable device.

This round allows Hyris to strengthen its commercial deployment and marketing, and make real-time and transparent food safety testing viable, available and scalable for any market player. Hyris has focused its application on the nutrition sector, while also working with adjacent and complementary fields, such as pharmaceuticals, virology and epidemiology. In recent weeks, Hyris has adapted its features to test for the presence of COVID-19 pathogens using World Health Organization compliant reagents.

"With as much as 10%[1] of all foods we consume tainted by adulteration, there could be no better time to disrupt the market and create a healthier, more trusted food system", explains **George Coelho**, Co-Founder and Partner of Astanor Ventures.

<u>Hyris</u> is excited to welcome new investors that can boost the company's growth. **Stefano Lo Priore**, Hyris' Founder and CEO, states: "We are excited to join forces with Astanor, a top deeptech venture capital fund. With the support of Cross Border Growth Capital, we were in the position to choose the best investor among different international VC funds interested in us."

<u>Cross Border Growth Capital</u> assisted Hyris as financial advisor in the fundraising process, and **Fabio Mondini de Focatiis** remarks: "We are pleased to have advised Hyris in a round that ended up being oversubscribed. This round shows that experienced international investors are continuously increasing their interest in the Italian VC landscape."

<u>TLT</u> and <u>Legance</u> were Hyris' legal advisors in the operation, while Astanor has been advised by Withersworldwide.

[1] https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R43358.pdf

About Astanor Ventures

Impact investor Astanor Ventures brings together capital, deep sector expertise and a long track-record of leveraging disruptive technologies to bring about a future of food that is nourishing, regenerative, trusted and ultra-fresh. Astanor Ventures helps ambitious, purpose-aligned founders build global companies in the sustainable agri-food sector.

About Hyris

Hyris is a UK-based BioTech startup active in the Advanced Diagnostic field, operating in USA, Europe and Asia. The company offers an integrated AI platform (a portable PCR called bCUBE, reagents and software) for DNA testing. The patented bCUBE technology is easy to use, affordable and provides results in less than 90 minutes close to the diagnostic location. The applications, initially aimed to the industrial genetic, rapidly evolved switching to other fields (pharmaceutical, virologic, epidemiologic, etc.) confirming once more the technology's flexibility and adaptability.

About Cross Border Growth Capital

Cross Border Growth Capital advises outstanding entrepreneurs leading high-potential startups in obtaining funding without ceasing to manage their company and helps investors to design and implement investment strategies according to the main disruptive trends in their sectors.