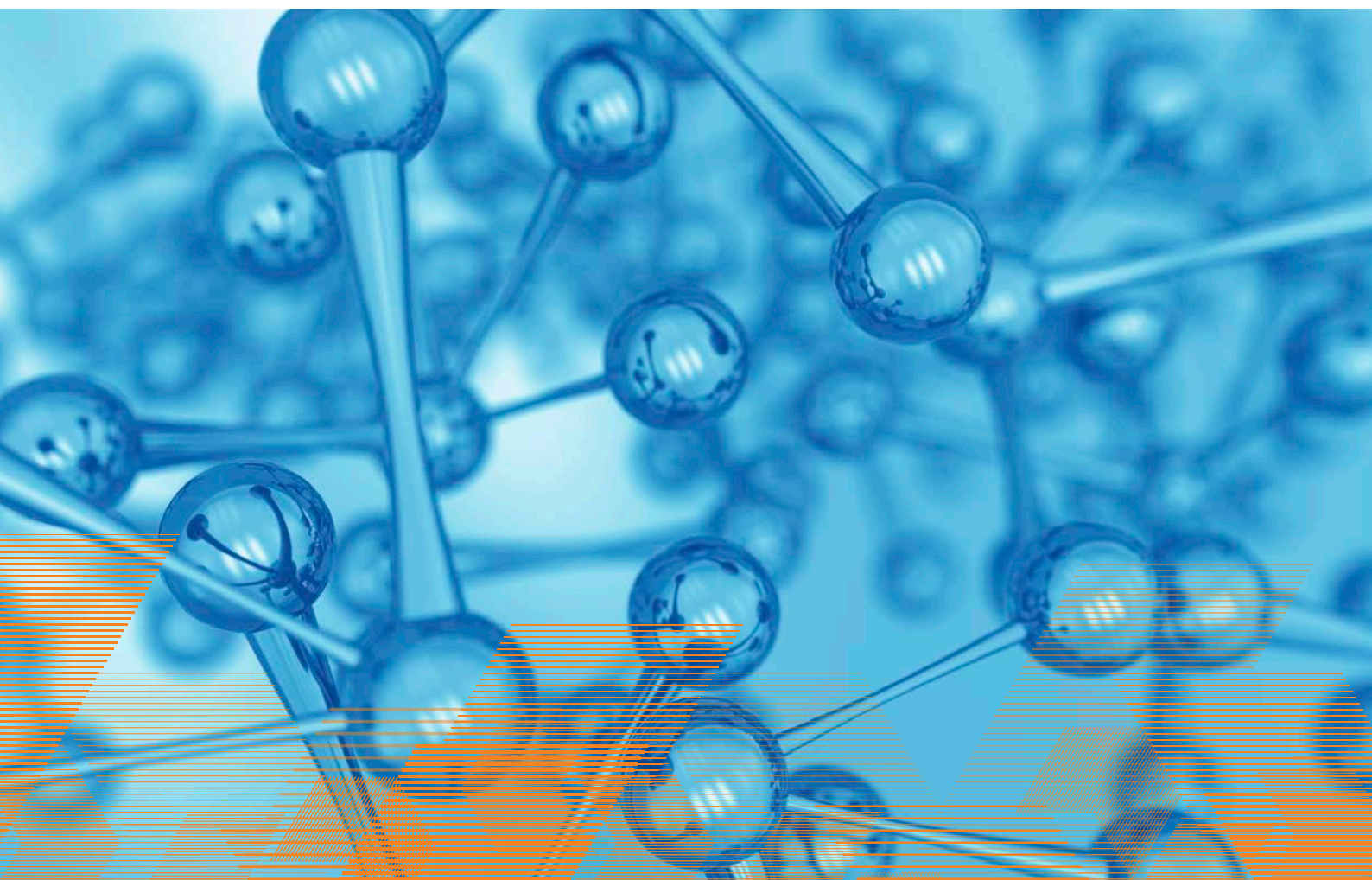


CASE STUDY

Reaxys<sup>®</sup>

Dr. Bel Mekonnen, CEO of Hager Biosciences

“Reaxys and Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry are perfect for our needs.”



**EMPOWERING LEAD OPTIMIZATION**

Hager Biosciences is a start-up drug discovery organization based on innovative medicinal chemistry capabilities. The researchers work in the pre-clinical space, developing highly sought-after lead compounds for unmet medical needs and partnering with other companies to develop them further.

We spoke to Dr. Bel Mekonnen, CEO of Hager Biosciences about his experiences with Reaxys and Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry.

## “Reaxys extracts information about compound synthesis and protocols, saving us considerable time.”

– Dr. Bel Mekonnen, CEO of Hager Biosciences



### **You’re the CEO of Hager Biosciences, but you also do research.**

I consider myself an entrepreneurial scientist. We’re a small company and everyone contributes to what is going on in the lab.

### **How did you come to own and run your own company?**

I’m a medicinal chemist with a PhD in organic chemistry. I worked for a large pharmaceutical company, but there came a point when I needed something to challenge me more. I wanted to seize new opportunities. So, I started my own company. It forces me to think outside the box — the industry is really changing, which creates great and fascinating opportunities for someone running their own startup.

### **Do you think that Reaxys and Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry are keeping up with the changes in the industry?**

I do. I think that Elsevier recognizes and is keeping pace with industry needs. Look at Reaxys: when we first used it, it was just reaction driven. Over the past few years, it has turned into a fully rounded product with synthesis pathway information, bioactivity data, literature, and more. There’s a clear sense of Elsevier seeing and answering user needs.

### **You recently tried out the new Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry.**

#### **What did you think?**

The old version was okay, but the new version of Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry is fantastic. Your developers did an excellent job of curating the information, taking data from disparate sources and bringing it together in a single, normalized database.

We also really liked having the two products together in a single user interface. Reaxys and Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry are perfect for our needs — they give us medicinal chemistry data with compound synthesis and methodology information.

**How do you use them in your research?**

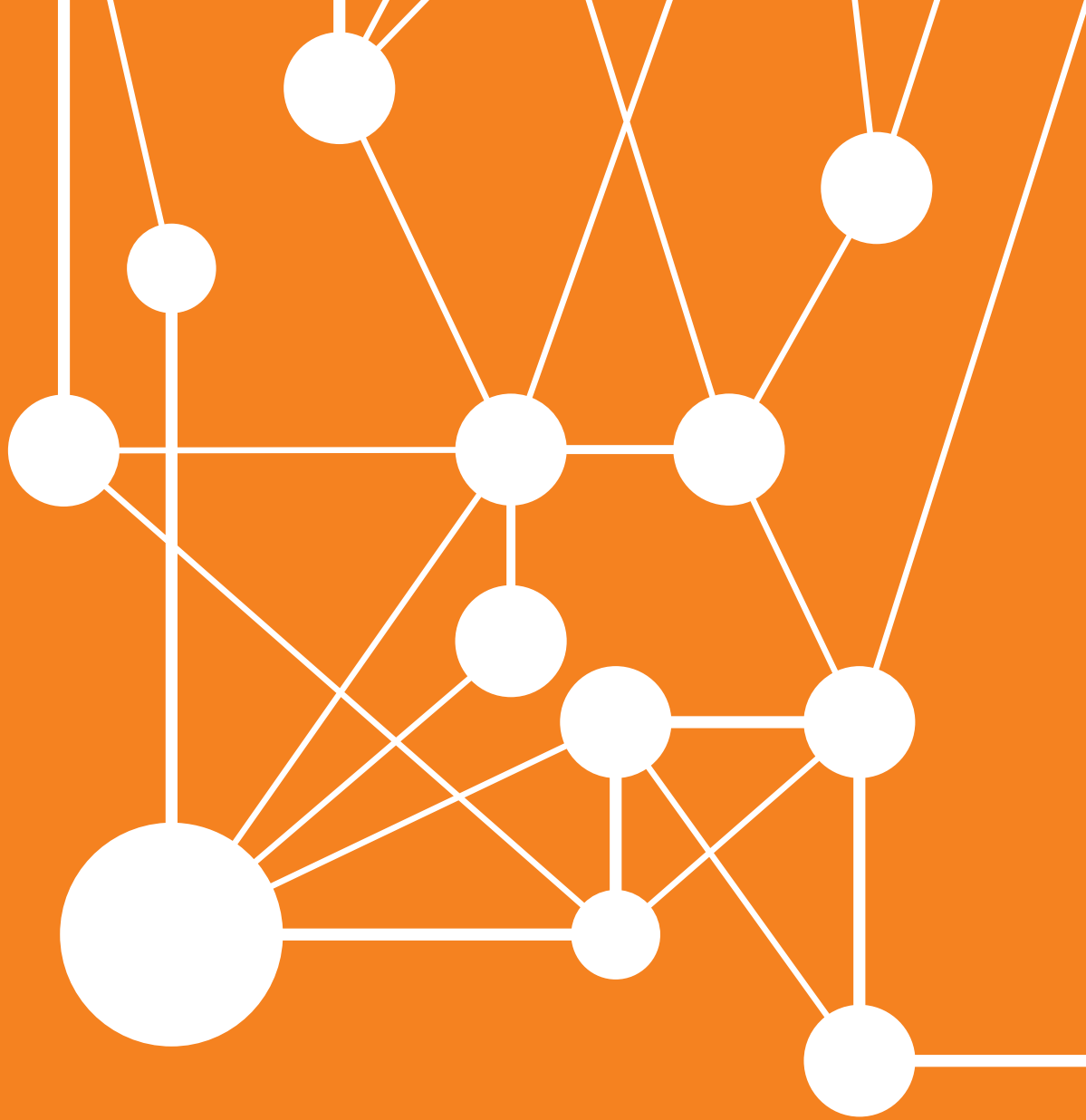
They're really well suited to lead identification and validation. The medicinal chemistry data is really useful when we're scoping out the interactions between a target class and similar compounds to our leads. Reaxys extracts information about compound synthesis and protocols, saving us considerable time. We can see the methodology without having to find the primary reference.

Reaxys also gives us the crucial flexibility to manually plan synthesis pathways or automatically generate them with AutoPlan. We can quickly generate the options or go through synthesis step by step and potentially discover new pathways.

Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry could also be a valuable tool in guiding future novel compound design and research. It compiles and curates pharmacological information from both published patents and research papers so we can assess how other compounds in the same target space as ours have fared.

**Are you going to continue using Reaxys and Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry?**

Certainly. Of the products we've tried, Reaxys is the best fit and we really like the new Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry. They're the right products for our pre-clinical drug discovery work.



## LEARN MORE

To request information or a product demonstration, please visit [elsevier.com/reaxys](http://elsevier.com/reaxys) or email us at [reaxys@elsevier.com](mailto:reaxys@elsevier.com).

Visit [www.elsevier.com/online-tools/corporate](http://www.elsevier.com/online-tools/corporate) or contact your nearest Elsevier office.

### ASIA AND AUSTRALIA

Tel: + 65 6349 0222

Email: [sginfo@elsevier.com](mailto:sginfo@elsevier.com)

### JAPAN

Tel: + 81 3 5561 5034

Email: [jpinfo@elsevier.com](mailto:jpinfo@elsevier.com)

### KOREA AND TAIWAN

Tel: +82 2 6714 3000

Email: [krinfo.corp@elsevier.com](mailto:krinfo.corp@elsevier.com)

### EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

Tel: +31 20 485 3767

Email: [nlinfo@elsevier.com](mailto:nlinfo@elsevier.com)

### NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND CANADA

Tel: +1 888 615 4500

Email: [usinfo@elsevier.com](mailto:usinfo@elsevier.com)

### SOUTH AMERICA

Tel: +55 21 3970 9300

Email: [brinfo@elsevier.com](mailto:brinfo@elsevier.com)