

16th of March 2018

Initiative taken to develop new doping control system

Professor Arne Ljungqvists Anti-Doping Foundation has decided to take the initiative to start the development of a new doping control system in order to secure the integrity of the doping control process.

Background

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) initiated in January 2018 an investigation into a potential integrity issue with the new generation BEREG-KIT Geneva security bottles and will recommend appropriate measures, if needed, in order to maintain the integrity of the doping control process. WADA was informed by the WADA-accredited laboratory in Cologne, Germany, that security bottles of the new generation 'BEREG-KIT Geneva', introduced in September 2017 by Swiss manufacturer Berlinger Special AG (Berlinger), may potentially be susceptible to manual opening 'upon freezing' of a sample.

In a press information on the 10th of March 2018, the Berlinger company announced "*...that they cease production of its doping control kit in the medium term. To avoid jeopardizing current anti-doping activities, the company will continue to supply its present customers at their request for a transitional period, in agreement with the World Anti-Doping Agency...*"

Development of a new secure doping control system

The potential integrity issue with the BEREG-KIT and Berglingers decision to cease production of the doping control kits, calls for an immediate action to develop a modern secure, reliable and trustworthy doping control system for sports and other testing segments, says Professor Arne Ljungqvist.

After consultation with various stakeholders Arne Ljungqvist Anti-Doping Foundation¹ has decided to take the initiative to establish a research and development (R&D) project with the purpose to develop a secure sample collection system.

¹ Arne Ljungqvist – oncology doctor, scientist, medical professor, high jumper and sports manager, has devoted his life to the service of medicine and sports. Professor Arne Ljungqvist's concern for the athlete's health, as well as his concern for the moral pitfalls, made him involve in the fight against doping in sports. He is regarded by many as the foremost doping hunter.

Arne Ljungqvist Anti-Doping Foundation promotes scientific research on anti-doping matters and education for pure health and clean sports. The Foundation's purpose ought to be

The development project has been set up in collaboration with a team from The Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm².

The project team consists of:

Staffan Sahlström, Project Leader (Board Member Arne Ljungqvist Anti-Doping Foundation)
Dr Alex Jonsson (Assistant Professor KTH)
Staffan Movin (KTH Executive School)
Donnie SC Lygonis (Constant Innovation AB)
Daniel Sandvik (Industrial Designer, Oxyrna Innovation)

The project will seek collaboration with the Doping Control Laboratory at Huddinge Karolinska Hospital, the Karolinska Institute, as well as leading international researcher and sport administrators (such as World Anti-Doping Agency).

The Arne Ljungqvist Anti-Doping Foundation will utilize its extensive international network of professors, sport administrators, athletes, educators and other experts in order to develop and implement the system.

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satisfied by initiating research on anti-doping matters in society as well as supporting anti-doping work in national and international sports, within the framework of the Foundation's own purpose.

² Since its founding in 1827, KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm has grown to become one of Europe's leading technical and engineering universities, as well as a key centre of intellectual talent and innovation. KTH is Sweden's largest technical research and learning institution and home to students, researchers and faculty from around the world dedicated to advancing knowledge.