Derek Ellison

Principal Commercial Consultant

Education

- Ph.D. – Protein Biochemistry
  University of Liverpool
- B.Sc. (Hons) – Biochemistry
  University of Warwick

contactus@greyrigge.com

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+44(0) 118 979 1169

About

Derek is a senior biopharmaceutical executive with over 25 years of technical, operational and commercial experience spanning start-up, mid-size and large multinational pharma organisations. He combines a deep technical and regulatory understanding of biologics development and manufacture with strong commercial acumen. Derek has led major R&D programmes, site operations and business strategy for both innovator companies and CDMOs at national and global level. He is well connected within the United Kingdom's, European and United States' biopharmaceutical industry.

Skills & Impact

Leadership & Team Building: Experienced at building large, multi-disciplinary teams across R&D, manufacturing and commercial functions, including site leadership responsibilities (ca £25M budget).

Business & R&D Strategy: Developing and executing organisational strategy for biologics and gene therapy businesses, including roadmap development with senior leadership and external advisors.

CMC & Biologics Manufacturing: Deep technical expertise in CMC development, GMP manufacturing, analytical development and quality control for biopharma products.

Programme & Portfolio Management: Leading complex, matrixed global development programmes (ca £800M budget) with account-ability across clinical, technical and regulatory workstreams.

Business Development & Deal Making: Structuring and closing consultancy, manufacturing and partnership agreements with pharma, biotech and public sector clients.

Regulatory & Due Diligence: Authoring key sections of regulatory submissions and leading technical due diligence for acquisitions and licensing opportunities.

Entrepreneurial Business Building: Co-founding and growing a specialist biopharma consultancy from inception, including business planning and investment raising.

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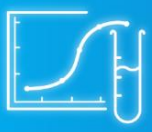
Areas of Expertise

Strategic Planning & Due Diligence

Assay & Quality Control

CMC & Manufacturing

Preclinical, Non-Clinical & Toxicology



CDMO Management

Formulation Development & Stability

QA, Auditing & Regulatory Affairs

Clinical Development & Monitoring

Languages

- English (native)

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Experience

Principal Commercial Consultant
GreyRigge Associates Ltd.
2026 - Present
Business development leader & representative. Providing BD services & CDMO management consulting.

Vice President, Biologics Services Europe
Pharmaron
2021 – present
Led Pharmaron's European Biologics Services business and was site head for the Liverpool facility, with full P&L and operational responsibility (ca £25M), including business strategy and investment planning for the site.

Associate Vice President, CMC Dev. Operations
Allergan & Core Team lead for IBD Mab asset
2016 – 2021
Responsible for biologics clinical manufacturing strategy, overseeing outsourced drug substance manufacturing (£50-100M annual budget) key strategic partner relationships and CMC due diligence for potential acquisitions.

Executive Director
Allergan (legacy Actavis),
2015 – 2017
Led strategic partnering activity for the Biologics R&D organisation, managing partner relationships and in-licensing initiatives for new biologic assets.

Chief Operating Officer
Actavis Biologics
2010-2015
Led R&D operations spanning candidate selection, process development, GMP manufacturing, analytical development, QC, engineering and project management at a global biologics centre of excellence.

Chief Operating Officer
Eden Biodesign
2008-2010

Business Development Director
Eden Biodesign
2004 – 2008
Won a government bid to develop a new CDMO. Responsible for all commercial activities for Eden Biodesign including marketing strategy and business launch..

Co-founder & Senior Consultant
Eden Biopharm
2000 – 2004
First employee and co-founder of a specialist biopharma consultancy, contributing to business planning and delivering technical consultancy across process development, manufacturing and regulatory affairs.