BioSpectrum ASIA EDITION
the business of Bio & Health Sciences

Cambrex breaks ground on $120 M expansion in US for pharma CDMO capabilities

November 3, 2026 | News

For commercial manufacturing of small molecule active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and synthetic peptides



Cambrex, a leading global contract development and manufacturing organisation (CDMO), has marked the groundbreaking of its $120 million expansion at its Charles City, Iowa facility, US.

The expansion will add 160,000 liters of manufacturing capacity, increasing the site's total capacity by approximately 25% to nearly one million liters, supporting the development and commercial manufacturing of small molecule active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and synthetic peptides. The project is anticipated to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2028.

The Charles City facility provides development and manufacturing services for small molecule APIs, synthetic peptides and pharmaceutical intermediates, supporting projects from clinical development through commercial-scale production. The expansion builds on the site's existing infrastructure and technical expertise while providing additional capacity to meet customer demand.

"This groundbreaking marks an important milestone in our continued investment in US manufacturing and in the Charles City site," said Claudio Russolo, Chief Operating Officer and incoming Chief Executive Officer, Cambrex. "As the site celebrates its 100th anniversary, this expansion reflects both its long history and its continued importance to our future. By expanding commercial-scale capacity for both small molecule and peptide manufacturing, we are strengthening our ability to support customers as their programs advance from development through commercialization."