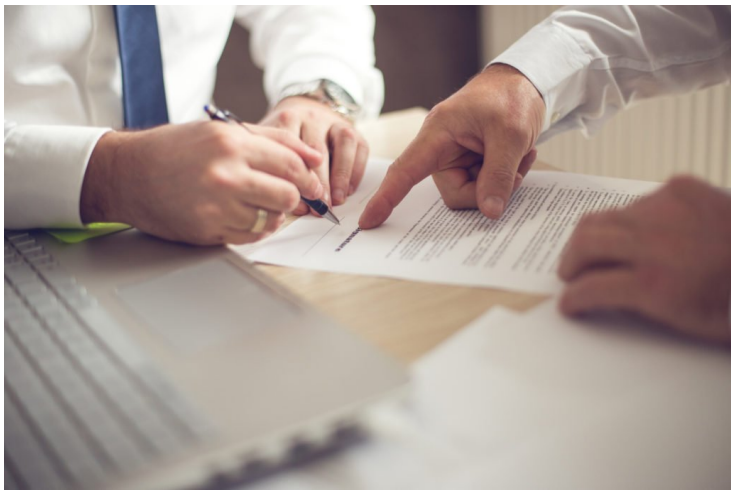
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Merck, Roche to renew global distribution agreement

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Global distribution agreement renewed under existing terms for additional five years



Merck and Roche have agreed to renew their current distribution agreement for the Biochemical Reagents and Kapa Biosystems product portfolios, as well as select qPCR & Nucleic Acid Purification products.

Under the agreement, Merck will continue to employ its sales, marketing and e-commerce expertise, providing customers with continued access to high quality Roche products.

This agreement, initiated between the two life science industry leaders in 2015 and originally extending to 2020, will now continue for an additional five years, maintaining global exclusivity in most regions.The extension demonstrates the two organizations' commitment to bringing high-quality products to customers and providing them with the research tools needed to solve the toughest problems in life science.

The global distribution agreement will extend through 2025 and is effective January 1, 2019.