

IBA and Framatome join forces to industrialize Astatine-211 production for cancer therapies

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, and Paris, France, 16 October 2026, 7:00 a.m. – IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A., Euronext), the world leader in particle accelerator technology and radiopharmaceutical production solutions, and Framatome, an international leader in nuclear energy committed, among other activities, to the industrial development of products and services for human health through its Framatome Healthcare brand, today announce the establishment of a joint venture (JV) named Ekalia, with its dedicated logo:



The Ekalia JV is dedicated to deploying an international network of industrial-scale Astatine-211 (^{211}At) production sites close to customers, making this promising radioisotope available for future targeted cancer therapies. Jointly owned by the two partners, the new company combines IBA's cutting-edge cyclotron and isotope production technologies with Framatome's nuclear industrial expertise. Together, the two companies intend to establish a network of production sites across Europe and North America.

Addressing a major challenge in nuclear medicine

Astatine-211 is considered a promising alpha-emitting radioisotope for precision nuclear medicine¹. With its favorable half-life, this alpha emitter can deliver highly concentrated radiation over a very short distance, potentially destroying cancer cells, while minimizing exposure to surrounding healthy tissue². However, translating this clinical potential into patient care requires reliable, large-scale production infrastructure capable of serving as many patients as possible.

Ekalia aims to address this challenge by progressively deploying an international network of industrial Astatine-211 production sites. The first production site is planned in Nantes, France, and is expected to become operational in 2028. Ekalia's strategy also includes plans for a second pilot site in the United States, followed by the deployment of additional production sites across Europe and the United States to support customers using Astatine-211.

¹ Lindegren et al. EJNMMI Radioph. and Chem. (2026) 11, 15 [doi:10.1186/s41181-026-00428-0](https://doi.org/10.1186/s41181-026-00428-0)

² Albertsson P et al; Frontiers in Med (2023),9, 1076210: [doi:10.3389/fmed.2022.1076210](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmed.2022.1076210).

Combining innovation with industrial excellence

Framatome and IBA have already achieved pioneering advances in the field of theranostics³. IBA recently [launched the Cyclone® iKure cyclotron](#), dedicated to the production of Astatine-211. Through [PanTera](#), IBA has also established itself as a leading player in advancing the production of Actinium-225, another key isotope for targeted alpha therapy.

For its part, Framatome's technology, through its ISOGEN joint venture with Kinetrics, enabled the first large-scale commercial production of the radioisotope Lutetium-177 in a power reactor in Canada in June 2022, ensuring reliable, large-scale access to this essential medical radioisotope for targeted prostate cancer therapy.

Through this alliance, IBA and Framatome are setting new benchmarks in the field of theranostics, reinforcing their commitment to driving innovation and improving global access to life-saving treatments.

A partnership supporting new cancer therapies

Catherine Vandendorpe, Chief Corporate and Ventures Officer at IBA, commented: *"This joint venture reflects our determination to actively help remove the barriers limiting patient access to innovations in nuclear medicine. By combining our technological leadership with Framatome's industrial expertise, we are creating the conditions required to make Astatine-211 available at scale and support the development of new cancer therapies."*



François Gauché, Vice President of Framatome Healthcare, added: *"Future targeted therapies require reliable, scalable and resilient supply chains. By joining forces with IBA, we are beginning the development of an international industrial production network for Astatine-211 capable of sustainably supporting the growth of this market and the development of innovative treatments for the benefit of patients."*



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About Framatome and Framatome Healthcare

Framatome is an international leader in nuclear energy recognized for its innovative, digital and value-added solutions for the global nuclear fleet. With worldwide expertise and a proven track record for reliability and performance, the company designs, services and installs components, fuel, and instrumentation and control systems for nuclear power plants. Its more than 22,000 employees

³ The combination of a radioactive imaging isotope to locate a lesion and a therapeutic isotope to destroy the identified target.



work every day to help Framatome's customers supply ever cleaner, safer and more economical low-carbon energy.

Visit us at : www.framatome.com and follow us on [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Framatome is owned by the EDF Group (80.5%) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI – 19.5%).

About IBA

IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.) is the world leader in particle accelerator technology. The company is the leading supplier of equipment and services in the field of proton therapy, considered to be the most advanced form of radiation therapy available today. IBA is also a leading player in the fields of industrial sterilization, radiopharmaceuticals and dosimetry. The company, based in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, employs approximately 2,000 people worldwide. IBA is a certified B Corporation (B Corp) meeting the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance.

IBA is listed on the pan-European stock exchange Euronext (IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB)

More information can be found at: www.iba-worldwide.com

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Press release | October 16, 2026

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