

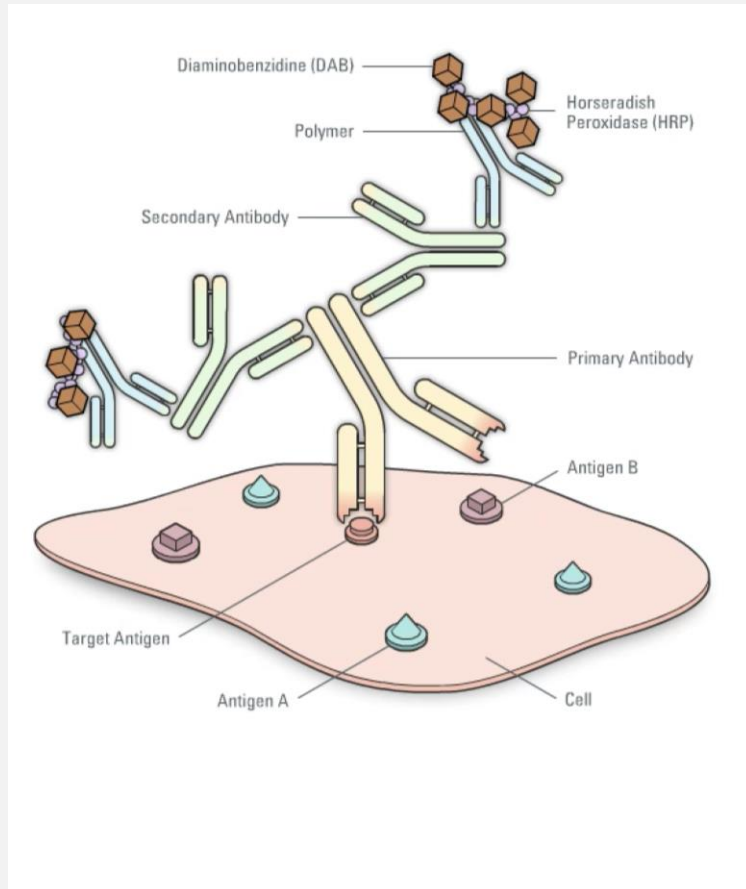
LEICA BIOSYSTEMS



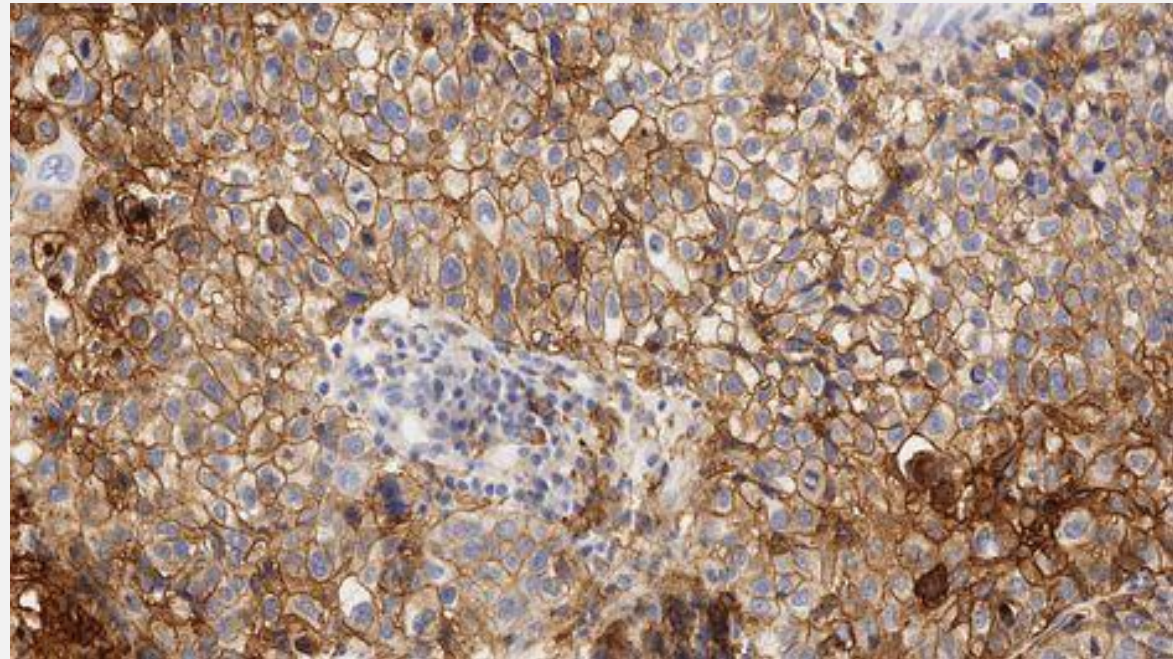
THE COMPANY

Leica Biosystems- an international company which supply devices and equipment for cancer diagnosis to hospitals, research bodies, and other companies.

Newcastle- developing and producing antibodies and stains which can be used on tissue biopsies



HOW DOES THIS WORK?



DEPARTMENTS

- TCP -Tissue Culture Production
- Clinical Lab
- Quality Control
- Investigations
- Manufacturing
- Distribution
- Administration
- Finance
- Research and Development

MY DAY

- Introduction to site an overview of the research and development
- overview of immunohistochemistry
- stand-up meeting- Check up on what everyone was doing in the project. Big whiteboards all around the corridors with timescales and targets on.
- Talk by pathologist Max Robinson looking at biomarkers in neck cancer
- Time using the multiview microscope to look at case studies with Max Robinson
- Lunch- discussion with students on industrial placements
- overview of detection chemistry projects-looking at developing new types of stains and some of the struggles to overcome. Here I learnt how different departments interacted and how they related to the voice of the customer
- time in the lab observing techniques used for testing stains/antibodies, known as a BOND run



THINGS THAT SURPRISED ME

- How much that Leica has to rely on other companies to be able to produce their product
- the amount of testing and paperwork involved in production of stains
- the rigidity in keeping processes the same
- less of a focus on research and more of a focus on development, surprised at the lack of importance of literature
- the prioritising of projects
- Significance of the ethics surrounding tissue use

HOW THIS EXPERIENCE WILL HELP ME GOING FORWARD

- Aware of the protocols and repetitive nature of production of medical devices
- Look for jobs and opportunities that involve a level of research/reading of literature
- Interest in the area of diagnosis and prognosis using biochemical techniques
- Look for companies with a collaborative attitude between departments