



**TECHNICAL PROTOCOL**

**FOR**

# **iCreERT2-FRT-neo-FRT**

**Ligand-inducible iCre with  
attached FRT flanked,  
Pro- and Eukaryotic  
Neomycin Selection Cassette**

**(A013)**

Gene Bridges GmbH  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 584  
69120 Heidelberg, Germany  
Tel + 49 (0)6221 13708 11  
Fax + 49 (0)6221 13708 29  
Email: [contact@genebridges.com](mailto:contact@genebridges.com)  
[www.genebridges.com](http://www.genebridges.com)

## **CONTENTS**

### **1 Eppendorf tube + manual**

1. iCreERT2-FRT-PGK-gb2-neo-FRT: PCR template (50 ng/μl, 20μl)
2. This manual

**Store tube at -20°C**

### **Please read**

The products listed in this manual are for research purposes only. They are not designed for diagnostic or therapeutic use in humans, animals or plants. The Red<sup>®</sup>/ET<sup>®</sup> recombination technology is the intellectual property of Gene Bridges GmbH.

### **Conditions of use**

3.1 Purchaser will not manufacture, copy, reproduce, transmit, distribute, sell, lease, transfer, or improve upon the MATERIALS without prior written consent from GENE BRIDGES.

3.2 All MATERIALS relating Technologies shall be purchased from GENE BRIDGES or its authorized distributors. Use of any of the stated products from a source other than GENE BRIDGES will exempt GENE BRIDGES from any and all liabilities and warranties.

3.3 All MATERIALS purchased by research organizations, universities and other non-profit organizations may not be used for any commercial purpose. These MATERIALS are to be used for research purposes only. The MATERIALS may not be used to provide a commercial or non-commercial service, of any kind.

3.4 A purchase of MATERIALS by a private consumer is neither intended nor permitted.

## Short Description:

“iCreERT2-FRT-neo-FRT” PCR template is designed to facilitate the insertion of such a functional cassette into targeting constructs by Red/ET recombination.

A codon-improved version of P1 bacteriophage derived Cre-recombinase (Shimshek et al. 2002) is fused with the ligand-binding domain of the estrogen receptor (ER) to obtain a ligand-inducible recombinase.

Mammalian codon usage was applied for the altered Cre version (iCre). By introducing silent base mutations the high CpG content of the prokaryotic coding sequence was reduced, thereby reducing the chances of epigenetic silencing in mammals (Cohen-Tannoudji et al., 2000).

The iCreERT2-FRT-neo-FRT template encodes the neomycin/kanamycin resistance gene (aminoglycoside phosphotransferase) which combines a prokaryotic promoter (gb2) for kanamycin resistance in *E.coli* with a eukaryotic promoter (PGK) for neomycin resistance in mammalian cells.

The prokaryotic promoter gb2 is a slightly modified version of the Em7 promoter; it mediates higher transcription efficiency than the normally used Tn5 promoter. The promoter of the mouse phosphoglycerate kinase gene (PGK) is used as eukaryotic promoter. A synthetic polyadenylation signal terminates the kanamycin/neomycin transcription. The cassette is flanked by FRT sites for later excision by Flp-recombinase.

Using the provided PCR template one can easily create an iCre-FRT-neo-FRT cassette flanked by homology arms to insert the cassette by Red/ET recombination into the vector of choice. The template can easily be used to generate targeting constructs mediated by a single Red/ET Recombination step.

The “iCreERT2-FRT-neo-FRT template” is not linear but plasmid based (4185 bp in size). Due to its R6K origin it can't replicate in most of the frequently used *E. coli* strains. The PCR product can therefore be used directly for downstream applications without any further purification.

At least 20 PCR reactions can be performed using 1µl per reaction as template.



## Literature:

- Shimshek D.R., Kim J., Hübner M.R., Spergel D.J., Buchholz F., Casanova E., Stewart A.F., Seeburg P.H. and Sprengel R. 2002: Codon-improved Cre recombinase (iCre) expression in the mouse. *Genesis* 32: 19 – 26.
- Cohen-Tannoudji M., Vandormael-Pournin S., Drezen J., Mercier P., Babinet C. and Morello D. 2000: lacZ sequences prevent regulated expression of housekeeping genes. *Mech. Dev.* 90: 29 – 39.
- Metzger D. Clifford J., Chiba H. and Chambon P. 1995: Conditional site-specific recombination in mammalian cells using a ligand-dependent chimeric Cre recombinase. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 92: 6991 – 6995.