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Dr Marlies Sproll (PhD) is Chief Scientific Officer at MorphoSys AG (Martinsried, Germany), one of the world's leading biotechnology companies specialized on proprietary antibody technologies and its use for discovery and development of innovative biopharmaceuticals. Her current areas of responsibility include technology development, discovery, manufacturing, alliance management and intellectual property. Before joining MorphoSys AG in 2000, Dr Sproll held various R&D positions in the pharmaceutical industry, e.g. at the Vienna research facility of Boehringer Ingelheim or at E. Merck KGaA in Darmstadt, Germany, focusing on the discovery and development of antibody-based drugs and cancer vaccines. Dr Sproll studied Biology and was awarded a Doctor of Natural Sciences by the Technical University of Stuttgart, Germany. Before joining the industry, she held various research positions at different institutes of the Max-Planck Society in Tübingen, Germany.