Supporting Information

Practical and Scalable Synthesis of S1P₁ Receptor Agonist ACT-209905

Gunther Schmidt, * Stefan Reber, Martin H. Bolli, and Stefan Abele

Process Research Chemistry, Actelion Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Gewerbestrasse 16, CH-4123 Allschwil,

Switzerland

* Corresponding author. E-Mail: Gunther.schmidt@actelion.com. Telephone: +41 61 565 80 28.

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1. Analytical methods

LC-MS method:

Agilent G1956B (MS, Ionisation: ESI+, APCI), Agilent G1312B Bin Pump, Agilent G1315C DAD,

Agilent G1316B (thermostated column compartment), Agilent G1367C (auto sampler)

Injection volume: 2 μL

Column: Zorbax SB C18, 1.8 μm, 2.1 x 50 mm

Column flow: 1 mL/min

Eluent: Eluent A: Water, 0.08% TFA (trifluoroacetic acid)

Eluent B: Acetonitrile, 0.012% TFA

Gradient: 2.0 min 95% B

2.8 min 95% B

3.0 min 5% B

Pressure: 520 bar

Temperature: 75 °C

Detection wavelength: 210 nm

HPLC method 1:

HPLC system Agilent 1100 with data acquisition (Chemstation Plus)

Injection volume: 5 µL

Column: Zorbax Eclipse XDB C18, 3.5 µm, 150 mm x 4.6 mm

Column flow: 1.2 mL/min

Eluent: Eluent A: 950 mL water, pH = 2 (ca. 350-400 μ l H₂SO₄ 95%)

+ 50 mL acetonitrile

Eluent B: 950 ml acetonitrile + 50 mL water + 350-400 μl

H₂SO₄ 95%

Gradient mode: Time % A

0 min 80%

15 min 50%

20 min 5%

25 min 5%

25.1 min 80%

30 min 80%

Pressure: 160 bar

Temperature: 25 °C

Detection wavelength: 255 nm

Retention time of 1: 7.6 min

HPLC method 2:

HPLC system Agilent 1100 with data acquisition (Chemstation Plus)

Injection volume: $5 \mu L$

Column: Daicel ChiralPak AD-H, 5 µm, 250 mm x 4.6 mm

Column flow: 0.8 mL/min

Eluent: Add 1 mL diethylamine to 1 L ethanol. 150 mL of this

solution + 850 mL *n*-hexan.

Gradient mode: Isocratic

Chromatogram Time: 20 min

Pressure: 35 bar

Temperature: 25 °C

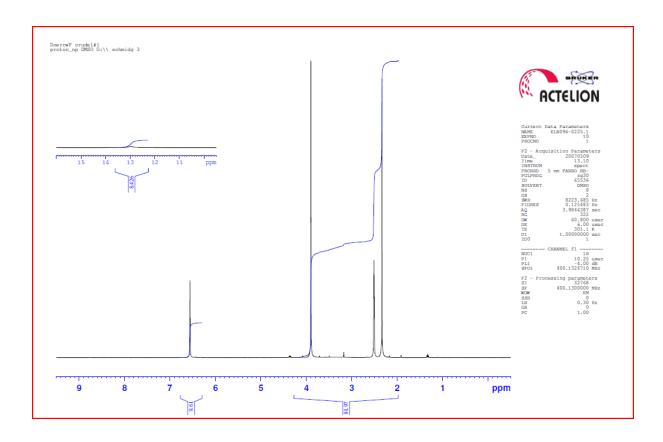
Detection wavelength: 230 nm

Retention time of 1: 12 min

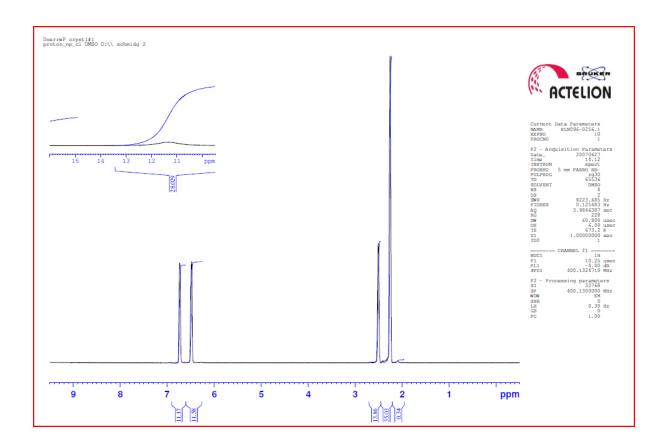
Retention time of **13**: 5.8 min

2. Representative spectra

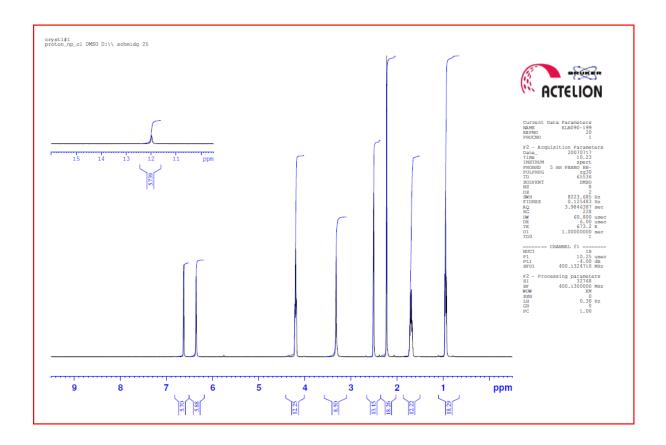
 1 H NMR spectrum of methyl 3-cyano-2-hydroxy-6-methyl-isonicotinate **21** (in D_{6} DMSO).



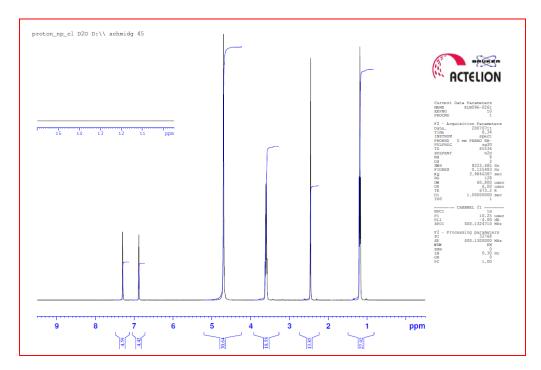
¹H NMR spectrum of 2-hydroxy-6-methylisonicotinic acid **25** (in D₆ DMSO).



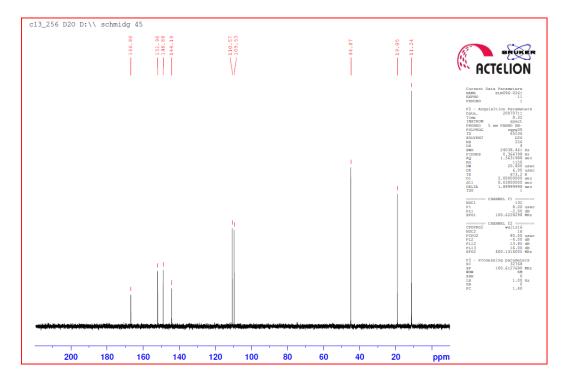
¹H NMR spectrum of propyl 2-hydroxy-6-methylisonicotinate **26** (in D₆ DMSO).



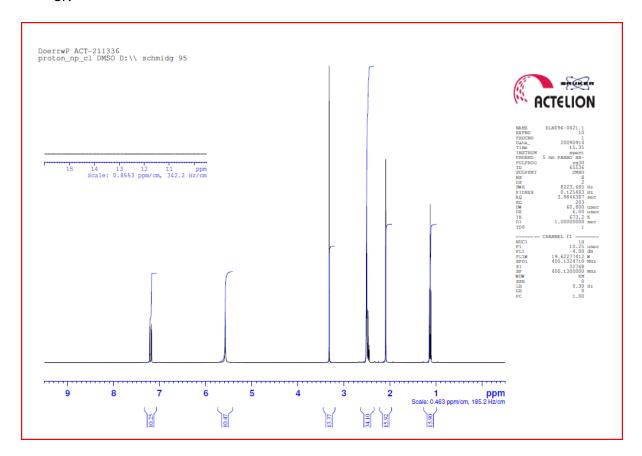
¹H NMR spectrum of 2-(diethylamino)-6-methylisonicotinic acid hydrochloride hydrate **6** (in D₂O).



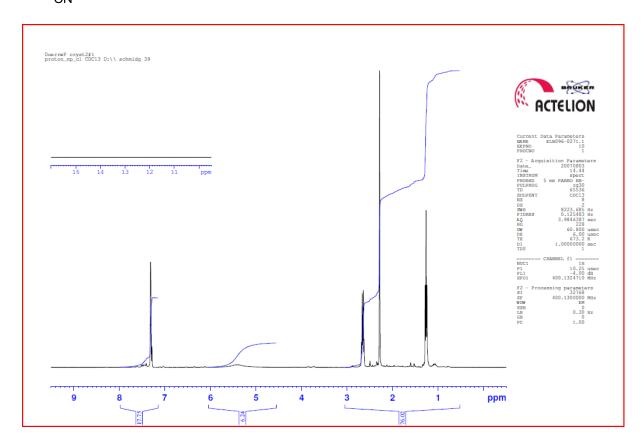
 $^{13}C\ NMR\ spectrum\ of\ 2\text{-}(diethylamino)\text{-}6\text{-}methylisonicotinic\ acid\ hydrochloride\ hydrate\ }\textbf{6}\ (in\ D_2O).$



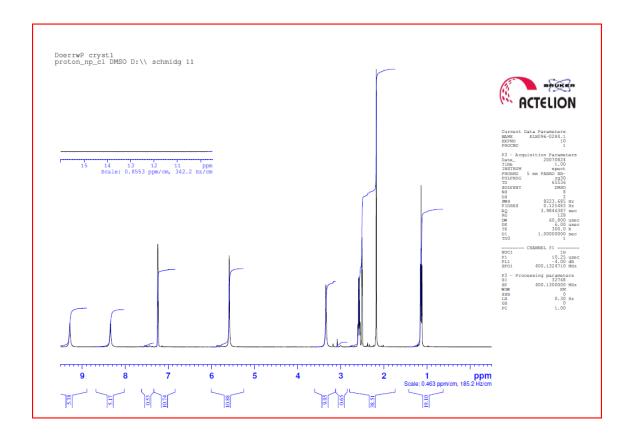
¹H-NMR spectrum of 4-amino-3-ethyl-5-methylbenzonitrile **31** (in D₆ DMSO)-

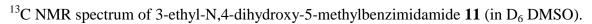


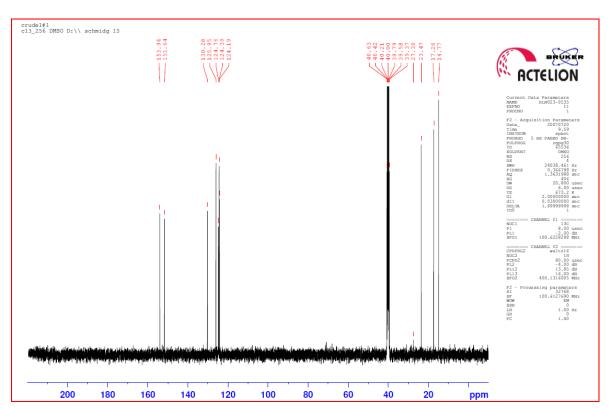
¹H NMR spectrum of 3-ethyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylbenzonitrile **10** (in CDCl₃).



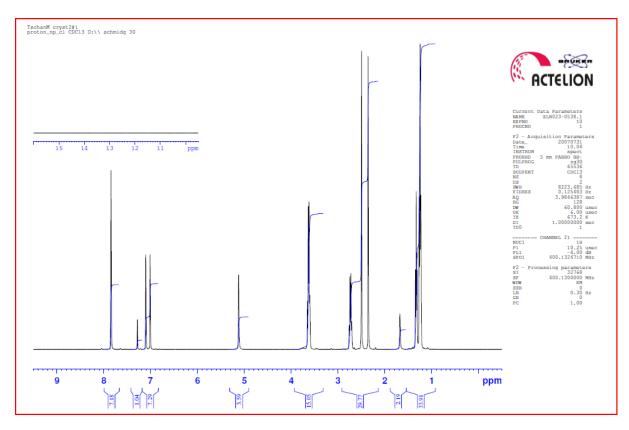
 $^1\mbox{H}$ NMR spectrum of 3-ethyl-N,4-dihydroxy-5-methylbenzimidamide 11 (in D_6 DMSO).



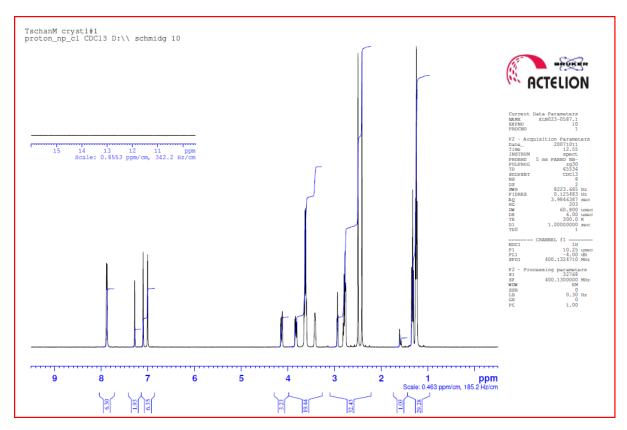




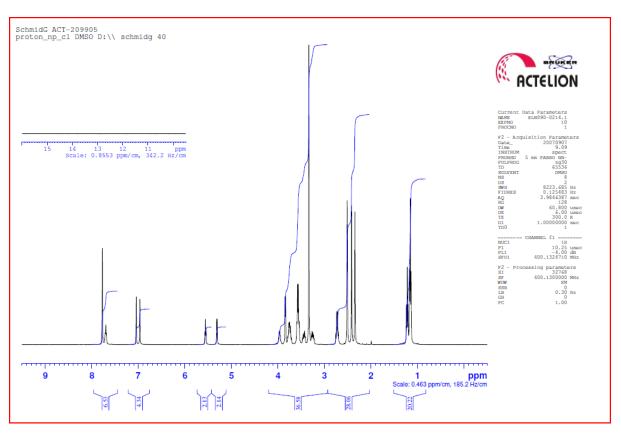
¹H NMR spectrum of 4-(5-(2-(diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenol **12** (in CDCl₃).



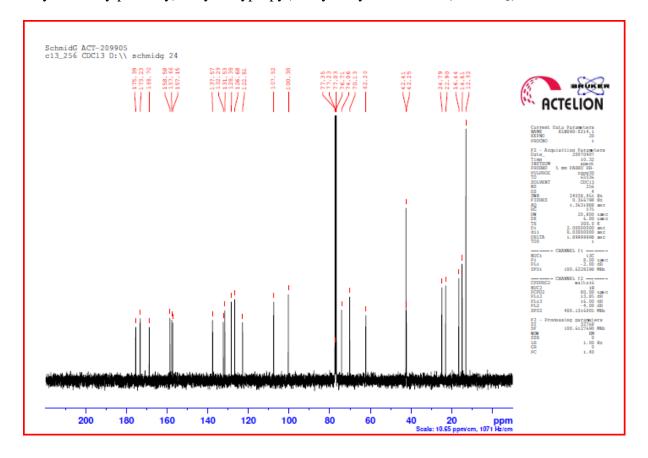
¹H NMR spectrum of (*S*)-N, N-diethyl-4-(3-(3-ethyl-5-methyl-4-(oxiran-2-ylmethoxy)phenyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)-6-methylpyridin-2-amine **13** (in CDCl₃).



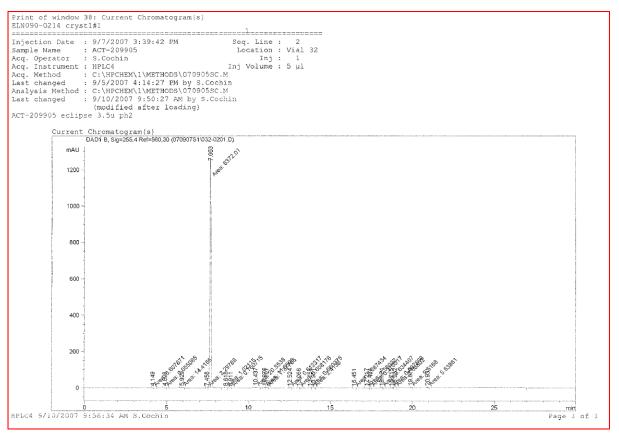
 1 H NMR spectrum of (*S*)-N-(3-(4-(5-(2-(diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide **1** (in D₆ DMSO).



¹³C NMR spectrum of (*S*)-N-(3-(4-(5-(2-(diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide **1** (in CDCl₃).

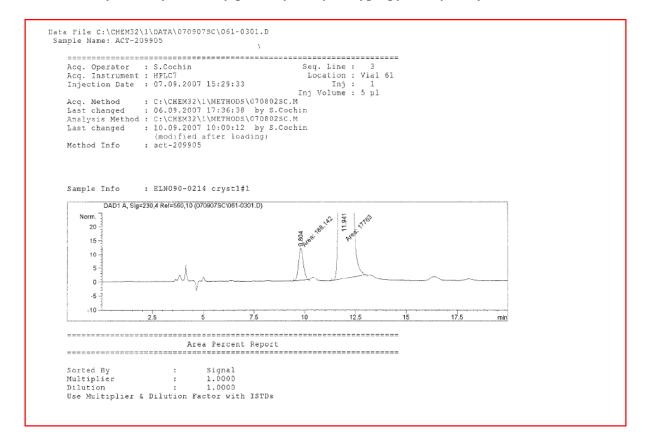


HPLC trace (HPLC method 1) of (*S*)-N-(3-(4-(5-(2-(diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide **1**

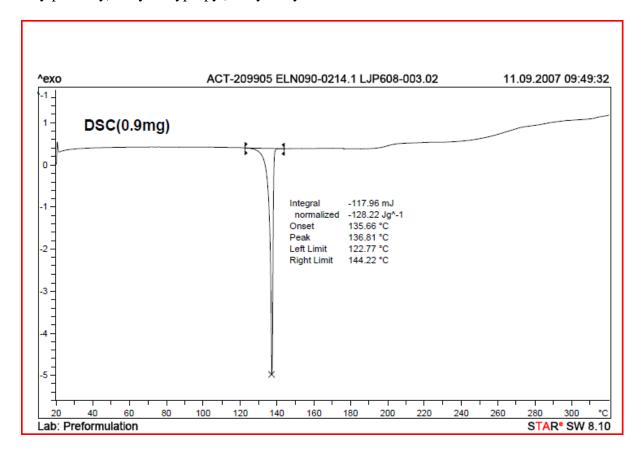


1				2				Average			
RT	RRT	Area	Area %	RT	RRT	Area	Area %	RT	RRT	Area	Area 9
4,419	0.58	0.607871	0.01	4.139	0.54	0.64833	0.01	4.279	0.56	0.628	0.01
4.898	0.64	0.655085	0.01	4.891	0.64	0.653336	0.01	4.895	0.64	0.654	0.01
5.929	0.77	14.41662	0.22	5.917	0.77	14.77023	0.23	5.923	0.77	14.593	0.23
7.458	0.97	2.29788	0.04	7.445	0.97	2.35305	0.04	7.452	0.97	2.325	0.04
7.663	1.00	6372.00781	98.66	7.648	1.00	6402.02588	98.64	7.656	1.00	6387.017	98.65
8.618	1.12	1.02115	0.02	8.604	1.13	1.04532	0.02	8.611	1.12	1.033	0.02
8.911	1.16	0.76072	0.01	8.89	1,16	0.8698	0.01	8.901	1.16	0.815	0.01
10.437	1.36	20,55378	0.32	10.416	1.36	21.00886	0.32	10.427	1.36	20.781	0.32
10.976	1.43	11.65056	0.18	10.957	1.43	11.79776	0.18	10,967	1.43	11.724	0.18
11,101	1.45	7,37765	0.11	11.082	1.45	7.50646	0.12	11.092	1.45	7.442	0.11
12.524	1.63	0.61232	0.01	12.503	1.63	0.648527	0.01	12.514	1.63	0.630	0.01
13.066	1.71	0.60818	0.01	13.049	1.71	0.694111	0.01	13,058	1.71	0.651	0.01
13.754	1.79	0.68038	0.01	13.744	1.80	0.657952	0.01	13.749	1.80	0.669	0.01
13.951	1.82	2.41360	0.04	13.937	1.82	2.47687	0.04	13.944	1.82	2.445	0.04
16,451	2.15	0.68743	0.01	16.434	2.15	0.581887	0.01	16,443	2.15	0.635	0.01
17.217	2.25	2.56032	0.04	17.197	2.25	2.56998	0.04	17.207	2.25	2.565	0.04
17.434	2.28	0.37052	0.01	17.416	2.28	0.485589	0.01	17.425	2.28	0.428	0.01
18.124	2.37	0.63441	0.01	18.118	2.37	0.688632	0.01	18.121	2.37	0.662	0.01
18.715	2.44	0.69750	0.01	18.709	2.45	0.680639	0.01	18.712	2.44	0.689	0.01
18.932	2.47	2.86802	0.04	18.93	2.48	2.88383	0.04	18.931	2.47	2.876	0.04
19.879	2.59	9,51680	0.15	19.876	2.60	9,51533	0.15	19.878	2.60	9.516	0.15
20.931	2.73	5,63861	0.09	20.927	2.74	5.61082	0.09	20.929	2.73	5.625	0.09
		6458.63720	100.00			6490.173193	100.00			6474.405	100.0

HPLC trace (HPLC method 2) of (*S*)-N-(3-(4-(5-(2-(diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide **1**



DSC of (*S*)-N-(3-(4-(5-(2-(diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide **1**



3. Examples of procedures on 400-L scale (6, 11, 12)

2-(Diethylamino)-6-methylisonicotinic acid hydrochloride hydrate (6)

A 400-L enamelled reactor was charged with DCM (156 L), propyl methylisonicotinate 26 (21.277 kg, 109.2 mol, 1.0 equiv) and pyridine (13 L). The mixture was cooled to - 5 °C. Triflic anhydride (34.02 kg, 1.1 equiv) was added in 125 min at below 5 °C. The mixture was heated to 20 °C and stirred for 45 min. IPC showed 0.1 % a/a of 26. The reaction mixture was washed with water (100 L). The organic layer (183 L) was concentrated to a minimum stirring volume at 60–70 °C (128 L solvent removed). The water content of a sample of the residue was 0.01 % w/w (Karl Fischer titration). DMSO (100 L) and Et₂NH (112.5 L) were added to the residue. The solution was heated to 50 °C for 17 h. IPC showed 0.6 % a/a of 27. The temperature was increased to 125 °C and solvent and Et₂NH (61 L) were distilled off. The mixture was cooled to 30 °C and diluted with TBME (144 L). The solution was washed with water (151 L) and 8.3 w/w% HCl (6.5 L). The aqueous layer had a pH of 6.7 and was discarded. The organic layer was washed with water (50 L). IPC of a sample showed no diethylamine present (1 NMR). Solvent (102 L) was distilled off at 90 °C jacket temperature. The mixture was treated with 25% HCl (83 L) at 20 °C and heated to 145 °C while 1-propanol and aqueous HCl were distilled off (74 L solvents were distilled off). IPC showed 0.2% a/a of 28. The mixture was cooled to 30 °C. To the suspension was added acetone (85 L) at 30 °C. The suspension was cooled to 1 °C and aged for 9.5 h. The suspension was filtered over a 50 L glass nutsche with Teflon filter cloth 36 µm in 15 min. The solid was washed with acetone (2 x 18 L). The yellow solid 6 was dried on the nutsche with a slight stream of nitrogen for 47 h. Yield: 18.007 kg (74%). ¹H NMR assay: 100% w/w. The residue in the reactor was dissolved with methanol (100 L). The solution was concentrated on a rotavapor at 40 °C and reduced pressure to obtain 3.164 kg (15%) of 6 with a ¹H NMR assay of 94% w/w.

3-Ethyl-*N***,4-dihydroxy-5-methylbenzimidamide** (**11**). A 400-L enamelled reactor was charged with nitrile **10** (20.925 kg, 130 mol, 1 equiv), NH₂OH·HCl (22.555 kg, 2.5 equiv), Et₃N (45 L, 2.5 equiv) and MeOH (176 L). The mixture was heated to 65 °C for 7.5 h. The mixture was cooled to 20 °C and 8.9 w/w% HCl (96.4 L) was added to obtain a pH of 1.79. The brown solution was concentrated at 44 °C internal temperature and reduced pressure (172 L solvent removed). The residue was washed with TBME (2 x 100 L). The organic layers were discarded. The pH of the aqueous layer was adjusted to 7.12 by addition of 30% NaOH (23 L). The resulting suspension was cooled to 2 °C and filtered. The cake was washed with water (25 L). The product was dried on the nutsche for 7.5 d with a slight stream of nitrogen. Yield (**11**): 23.16 kg (92%). ¹H NMR assay: 95% w/w.

4-(5-(2-(Diethylamino)-6-methylpyridin-4-yl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-2-ethyl-6-methylphenol (12). A 400-L enamelled reactor was charged with isonicotinic acid 6 (21.058 kg, 80.151 mol), HOBtH₂O (1.229 kg, 0.1 equiv), hydroxy-benzamidine **11** (16.3957 kg, 15.5677 kg assay corrected, 1 equiv), Et₃N (8.16 kg, 1 equiv) and THF (156 L). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C. A solution of DCC (18.2 kg, 1.1 equiv) in THF (60 L) was added to the mixture at 0 °C for 152 min. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 8 hours. The suspension was heated to 20 °C in 8 h and stirred at 20 °C for 3 h. The suspension was heated to reflux for 21 h and then concentrated at 75 °C whereby THF (145 L) was removed. TBME (109.5 L) was added to the residue and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. The urea was filtered off and washed with TBME (3 x 8.5 L). The combined filtrates were washed with 3.7 w/w% aq NaHCO₃ solution (2 x 54 L) and water (56 L). The organic layer (170 L) was concentrated at normal pressure and 120 L solvent was removed. Acetonitrile (211 L) was added and distillation was continued (internal temperature 65-70 °C, 139 L solvent distilled off). Acetonitrile (141 L) was added and distillation was continued (internal temperature 70-80 °C, 65 L solvent distilled off). The mixture was cooled to 60 °C within 1 h and to 5 °C within 5 h. The suspension was aged for 9 h. The suspension was filtered and the cake was washed with cold acetonitrile (32 L). The cake was dried on the nutsche with a slight stream of nitrogen for 112 h. Yield (12): 20.32 kg (69%). ¹H NMR assay: 93% w/w.