CLAIMS

1.- A method for manufacturing an antibody comprising:

- expressing said antibody in a host cell
- recovering a mixture containing the antibody, host cell debris, and impurities; and
- purifying said antibody from the mixture wherein said purification comprises:
    - activated carbon filtration, followed by
    - protein A chromatography

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said purification comprises at least one further chromatography step.

3. A method according to claim 2 wherein said further chromatography steps comprise cation exchange chromatography and/or anion exchange chromatography.

4. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the recovered antibody comprises native disulfide bonds.

5. A method according any preceding claim, wherein the recovered antibody comprises native inter-chain disulfide bonds.

6. A method according to any preceding claim wherein said host cell is a mammalian host cell and the mixture containing the antibody is the cell culture supernatant.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein said purification process additionally comprises depth filtration of the cell culture supernatant prior to activated carbon filtration.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein depth filtration and activated carbon filtration are operated in-line.

9 A method for the prevention of disulfide bond reduction during purification of an antibody expressed in a host cell comprising:

- activated carbon filtration step, followed by
- protein A chromatography

10. A method for purifying an antibody from a liquid mixture containing contaminants comprising:

- filtering said liquid mixture with an activated carbon filter, followed by
- protein A chromatography.

11. A method according to claim 10 wherein said recovered antibody comprises native disulfide bonds.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the recovered protein comprises native inter-chain disulfide bonds.

13. A method according to any of the preceding claims wherein the antibody recovered from the protein A chromatography comprises less than 10%, less than 5%, less than 4%, less than 3%, less than 2% or less than 1% antibody reduction related impurities.

14. A method according to any of the preceding claims wherein the antibody recovered from the protein A chromatography comprises less antibody reduction related impurities than the antibody recovered from the same process without an activated carbon filtration step.

15. A method for decreasing the amount of reducing agents during purification of an antibody comprising:

- activated carbon filtration, followed by
- protein A chromatography.