CLAIMS

1. A Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell line comprising a deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) expression vector, and wherein said vector comprises a nucleotide sequence coding for a heterologous mammalian glutamine synthetase (GS) under the control of a Simian vacuolating virus 40 (SV40) promoter, including the SV40 enhancer and at least one expression cassette for expressing a recombinant protein, wherein said GS comprises a sequence:

- at least 97 % identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

2. The CHO cell line according to claim 1, wherein said GS is a human GS.

3. The CHO cell line according to claim 2, wherein said GS comprises a sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

4. The CHO cell line according to claim 1, wherein said GS is a dog GS.

5. The CHO cell line according to claim 4, wherein said dog GS comprises a sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

6. The CHO cell line according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said recombinant protein is a monoclonal antibody.

7. The CHO cell line according to claim 6, wherein said vector comprises a first expression cassette suitable for cloning of an antibody light chain, and a second expression cassette suitable for cloning of an antibody heavy chain.

8. The CHO cell line according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein said CHO cell line is the cell line deposited under No. CCL-61 at the ATCC.

9. A deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) expression vector, and wherein said vector comprises a nucleotide sequence coding for a heterologous mammalian glutamine synthetase (GS) under the control of a Simian vacuolating virus 40 (SV40) promoter including the SV40 enhancer, a first expression cassette suitable for cloning of a heterologous recombinant protein under the control of a CMV promoter, wherein said GS comprises a protein sequence:

a) at least 97 % identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

10. A combination of:

a) a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell line; and

b) a DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) vector suitable for production of a recombinant protein, wherein said vector comprises a sequence coding for a hererologous mammalian glutamine synthetase (GS) under the control of a Simian vacuolating virus 40 (SV40) promoter including the SV40 enhancer,, wherein said GS comprises a sequence:

i. at least 97 % identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

11. A kit comprising the combination according to claim 10.

12. An *in vitro* method of producing a recombinant protein comprising the steps of:

a) providing a CHO cell line according to any one of claims 1 to 8;

b) culturing said CHO cell line obtained under conditions suitable for production of the recombinant protein; and

c) isolating and/or purifying said recombinant protein.

13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of formulating said recombinant protein into a pharmaceutical composition.

14. Use of the CHO cell line according to any one of claims 1 to 8, or of the vector according to claim 9, or of the combination according to claim 10, for producing a recombinant protein *in vitro*.