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EC21 - BIOINVESTMENT SHOWCASE
INCREASING INDUSTRY INSIGHT

Munich, Germany.... The 2nd EC21 BioInvestor Conference, to be held from March 18-20, 2002, will showcase public and private biotechnology companies from Europe, Canada, the US, and Israel. Offering an opportunity to network with recognised leading industry figures, delegates will also be able to attend sessions giving an overview of the current status of the industry and offering insight into future opportunities within this specialised sector. The audience will be comprised of global bioinvestors based in Europe and worldwide including, investment fund and asset managers, investment and commercial bankers, corporate finance specialists, equity analysts, venture capitalists, high net worth private investors, and representatives of stock exchanges.

"EC21 will facilitate a bioinvestor networking hub, producing an opportunity to help innovators build world-class biotechnology and biopharmaceutical companies," enthused Robert Lee Kilpatrick, Partner, Technology Vision Group LLC Group." The last EC21 conference was highly successful, building on our experiences from BioPartnering Europe and the BIA European CEO and Investor Conference and with the input of the BIA and EuropaBio we have designed this event specifically with investors in mind. Thomson Financial and BioWorld Today have helped us reach a larger investor audience than ever before. We also have a good selection of biotechnology companies presenting over the two days within the two streams, emerging companies and those with products either due to be on the market soon, or already there." Robert went on to describe 'Investors sessions' as follows:

'Which companies are bioinvestors putting their capital into and why?' chaired by Mary Clark, Managing Director, Life Sciences Consulting, Thomson Financial. Speaking companies in this session are: Sofinnova Partners, Apax, Lehman Brothers and WestLB Panure.

'Due Diligence: the process which links investors and companies' chaired by Bill Kridel, Managing Director, Ferghana Partners Group. Speaking companies in this session are: Cooley Godward LLP, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals and M Cam.

'What technology and product areas will become hot for

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bioinvestors and why?' chaired by Don Johnston, Vice President, Group Publisher, BioWorld Today. Speaking companies include: Merlin BioSciences, Warburg Pincus, 3i Deutschland and Alice Ventures.

'What do bioinvestors need to know about the state of the European life science industry?' chaired by Crispin Kirkman, CEO, BIA. Speaking companies include: Index Ventures, Earlybird, DRkC, EuropaBio.

Denis Lucquin, General Partner at Sofinnova Partners, who is presenting in the session titled 'Which companies are bioinvestors putting their capital into and why?' commented "It will be interesting to compare the theories and processes other bioinvestors use to decide where to put their capital, especially given the current market sentiment within the industry. Sofinnova Partners is experienced in both the relatively more mature US and younger European market place - our sector knowledge and extensive network places us well to talk about which companies are currently being invested in and why."

Dr Thimo Sommerfeld, Warburg Pincus, stated, "We expect that EC21 will offer a great opportunity to discuss what technologies and trends have the potential to create value to biotechnology investors. For investors with a long-term investment horizon like us, it is highly important to identify early on what development is a short-term trend and what is a long-term change in this industry that offers the opportunity for sustainable growth. Thirty years of industry experience and an extensive network give us insights that we have found valuable in directing our investment strategy."

For further information or if you would like to attend EC21 Bioinvestor conference please visit the website www.ec21bioinvestor.com. All professional investors are admitted free of charge.

About EC21:

Companies represented in the delegates line up so far include: 4SC AG, Bear Stearns, Biovitrum AB, Chiesi Farmaceutici SpA, EVA, Erfindungs-Verwertung AG, Fresenius Kabi Deutschland GmbH, GENFIT, Heidrick & Struggles, Inpharmatica Ltd, K.N.U.S.T., Novartis Corporation, Omrix Biopharmaceuticals, Schroder Ventures Life Sciences, Ventech, Wessing.

Presenters include: Abgenix, Inc., amaxa, Antisoma, atugen AG, Neurotech SA, BioVex Limited, Europroteome AG, MediGene AG, Neurocrine Biosciences, Oxford GlycoSciences.

Speakers: 3i Deutschland Ges. für Industriebeteiligungen mbH, Alice Ventures, AstraZeneca, BioIndustry Association, Dresdner Kleinwort Capital, Earlybird, Earlybird Venture Capital, EuropaBio, Ferghana Partners, Index Ventures, M-CAM® Inc., Merlin Biosciences Ltd, Sofinnova Partners, Thomson Financial Europe, Warburg Pincus, WestLB Panmure.

Sponsors include: Apax, BioWorld, BioWorld Today, Cooley Godward LLP, HCC De Facto Group plc, Earlybird, Merlin Biosciences Ltd, PR Newswire, Sofinnova Partners, U.S. Commercial Service.

Supporting sponsors include: 3i, ABN-AMRO, Alice Ventures, Dresdner Kleinwort Capital, GIMV, Index Ventures, Lehman Brothers, SG Cowen, Techno Venture, UBS, Warburg Pincus, WestLB Panmure.

Promoted by the following European National Biotechnology Associations: Italy (Assbobotec), Norway (NBA), Sweden (SIK), Finland (FIB), Germany (DIB), Belgium (BBA), Denmark (FBID), France (ORGANIBIO), Ireland (IBA), Portugal (Biotechol), Spain (ASEBIO), Switzerland (SSCI), Netherlands (NIABA).

Co -organised by: BIA, EuropaBio and Technology Vision Group LLC and hosted by The Bavarian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Transport and Technology.

EC21 last took place in London, UK 2000 with over 200 people attending.

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