



Beacon Sciences Announces New Color-Changing Assay for Creatinine

Beacon Sciences' color change assay technology has been developed to work with a miniaturized hand held diagnostic system, similar to a pregnancy strip test. The technology has diagnostic testing applications for disease states such as cardiac function, liver disease, kidney disease, diabetes, drug reactions and osteoporosis.

The company believes the technology platform could be worth \$50 million within the next five years.

Austin, TX – September 8, 2008 – Biotechnology company Beacon Sciences, LLC, announced today the new product introduction of a diagnostic assay for quantification of creatinine, a urine metabolite and universal indicator of kidney function, that changes color to the naked eye. Unlike existing assays, Beacon has created this assay using a synthetic receptor for this compound that replaces traditional enzyme and antibody based approaches. Many additional compounds can be detected using this proprietary method which ultimately will allow more testing to be done at the point-of-care, physician office lab, and home settings.

The new color change assay technology has been developed to work in a common lateral flow format, similar to a pregnancy strip test. This is important as creatinine is a common analyte that needs to be tested in conjunction with a wide array of metabolites in assays for disease states such as cardiac function, liver disease, osteoporosis treatment, diabetes, drug reactions, and general blood screening panels.

The assay can be analyzed in seconds using a miniaturized hand-held reader technology that Beacon Sciences has developed in conjunction with the assay.

High Market Potential for the New Technology

The current global immunoassay market is \$7 billion. President of Beacon Sciences, Damon Borich, M.D., said, "We believe the color changing assay technology platform could be worth \$50 million within the next five years if applied to the correct suite of novel biomarkers. At Beacon we focus on providing the core innovation and technology for the assay chemistry, but the first applications for consumer products may actually be seen in our spin-out company, Reveal Sciences, where we apply this technology directly in personal care products and the cosmetics industries." Both Beacon Sciences and its subsidiary, Reveal Sciences, are funded and managed by life sciences venture firm, Emergent Technologies, Inc. (ETI).

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The unique features of the new product line stem from the assay's inherent ability to display visual color change as a result of the test. This, in combination with a hand held reader to give quantitative results, offers the potential of simplicity and speed over existing methods. In addition, the assay allows reliable samples to be taken from urine versus traditional blood and serum samples. The new assay technology can now be combined with existing assays already in the marketplace, and will allow the existing assays to more accurately predict kidney function and the effect it has on key metabolic markers.

Dr. Borich added, "In essence, this technology has the promise to correlate more closely urine metabolite values with actual blood and serum values, thus offering a new means for non-invasive diagnostic testing."

About Beacon Sciences

Beacon Sciences is a biotechnology company founded on the pioneering research of Dr. Eric Anslyn and his research team. The Beacon Sciences platform utilizes supramolecular recognition chemistry rather than antibodies or enzymes to create a binding event in an assay. Custom chemistry scaffolds enable Beacon Sciences to design a custom, non-biological receptor for many classes of biological or non-biological molecule - even those too small for current antibody-based assays to detect. The technology is also compatible with existing assay techniques and can possibly improve antibody- or enzyme-based assays. It has wide-ranging applications, including medical diagnostics, biowarfare detection, molecular tools, environmental monitoring, food and beverage testing, chronic disease monitoring, and pre-clinical drug safety testing. Beacon Sciences is actively seeking in-licensing opportunities for novel biomarkers and rapid detection analyte markers. For more information, visit the Beacon Sciences website, www.beaconsciences.com.

About Reveal Sciences

Reveal Sciences is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Beacon Sciences, LLC, a company based on the pioneering work by Dr. Eric V. Anslyn of The University of Texas at Austin that delivers visible and simple custom tests to the medical community using the power of color change technology. Reveal Sciences harnesses the work of Beacon Sciences to empower the cosmetics and personal/ home care industries with functional ingredients for better product formulations, including tailored color-changing reactions with reversible visual indicators for consumer products and consumer testing. Reveal Sciences, LLC, is an Emergent Technologies Inc. (ETI) portfolio company, and ETI provides all management services. Visit the company website at www.revealsciences.com.

About Emergent Technologies, Inc.

Emergent Technologies Inc. (ETI), founded in 1989 by Thomas A. Harlan, is a unique life sciences venture firm that forms and manages companies and funds that commercialize groundbreaking institutional and university-based technologies. ETI is a turnkey solution for converting university science into high return ventures. ETI works with regional economic development groups and universities to capitalize on what the firm describes as invention capital. In addition to the traditional venture capital approach of raising and investing funds, ETI drives the selection and expansion of each technology assets unique to their region. ETI is pioneering a unique business approach investment's intellectual property, the key asset to most technology-based start-up companies. For more information, visit the company website www.etibio.com

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