



Development Corporation of Abilene Announces Management Agreement with Emergent Technologies, Inc.

Abilene and Austin, TX -- October 14, 2009 – The Development Corporation of Abilene (DCOA) announced today an agreement with Emergent Technologies, Inc. (ETI) to provide business development and related strategic management services to the Abilene Life Sciences Accelerator (ALSA). The ALSA serves the Abilene community by supporting life science entrepreneurs and scientists in turning technology discoveries into innovative products that improve quality of life and create sustainable economic development opportunities for the West Texas region and the state. ETI will employ the ALSA Director and administrative assistant and provide business recruitment, business acceleration and strategic planning services to the ALSA and its clients.

DCOA Board President Joe Crawford stated, “The Board carefully examined several options for staffing the ALSA, marketing and recruiting biotech companies to Abilene and helping those companies grow and add jobs paying substantially more than our average wage. We believe this relationship with Emergent Technologies, Inc. is our best option to help assure the success of the Abilene Life Sciences Accelerator.”

DCOA Chief Executive Officer Richard Burdine, said, “We look forward to benefiting from ETI’s innovation expertise and broad experience in the life sciences industry. ETI’s involvement will enable us to accelerate our efforts to recruit and develop multiple early stage life science companies with promising technology commercialization prospects. We have been impressed with the success of Receptor Logic, an ETI portfolio company that is Abilene’s first biotechnology company, and we are pleased to have an opportunity to work more closely with ETI.”

Thomas A. Harlan, ETI Chief Executive Officer, commented, “We appreciate and value this partnership and we are excited to work with the DCOA to help the Abilene community create jobs and further diversify its economy.”

ETI’s newly formed Innovation Services Group provides clients with critical expertise and support related to selecting, developing and managing life sciences opportunities in order to achieve both economic development and return on investment.

About the Development Corporation of Abilene (DCOA)

Since its beginnings in 1881, Abilene, Texas has developed from a cattle-shipping prairie town to a metropolis on the plains to the credit of its determined citizens who have a vision for the future. In the late 20th Century, Abilene’s economy was oil, agriculture and military. In 1989, the City countered the 1980s oil bust by being the first city in Texas to adopt a half-cent sales tax to fund economic development. Since then, the five-member DCOA Board appointed by the Mayor and City Council, and the DevelopAbilene team (City Economic Development Office, Abilene Industrial Foundation, Chamber Military Affairs Committee and the TTU Small Business Development Center) and the Workforce Center of West Central Texas have worked together to diversify Abilene’s economic base. The DevelopAbilene Team has had success developing new sectors in the local economy in wind energy, computer information and technology, and now biotechnology.

About the Abilene Life Sciences Accelerator (ALSA)

The Abilene Life Sciences Accelerator (ALSA) is a business accelerator that is part of a major initiative to diversify the economy of Abilene and the region. Affordable lease rates are available for early-stage biotech companies (our clients) as they grow to profitability. Access to leading-edge equipment is included in the base lease as one of many services offered clients in the ALSA. Private sector/University research collaborations are welcomed by faculty at the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy and our three private universities. Coordination with angel investors is offered for clients on-the-grow. Biotech workforce development is on-going at the high school and college level and we seek input from our clients on course content. Also, outstanding community support provides early-stage biotech companies recognition and appreciation for their contributions to our regional economy.

About Emergent Technologies, Inc.

Emergent Technologies, Inc. (ETI) is a life sciences technology investment and management company which provides early stage funding and development for scientific discoveries originating at universities and research institutions. The Company creates value by transforming scientific breakthroughs into technology platforms with multiple applications. ETI's unique innovation process enables the Company to select promising scientific discoveries for development, maximize the value of intellectual property and manage both cost and risk associated with the commercial development of early stage technologies. ETI is dedicated to turning research into revenue and, in the process, introducing compelling solutions to meet important market needs. For more information, visit the company website www.etibio.com.

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