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MetriGenix Launches the 4D Array System™

—Company introduces integrated biomolecular analysis solution for gene expression analysis—

GAITHERSBURG, Md.—October 08, 2002— MetriGenix, Inc., a biotechnology company focused on creating leading bioanalytical tools, today announced the launch of the 4D Array System™. Providing a complete biomolecular analysis solution, the 4D Array System™ consists of MetriGenix's patented Flow-thru Chip™ technology, which includes custom and branded chips, and its associated instrumentation. The platform is both versatile and flexible; in its present format with oligo arrays, it supports differential gene expression analysis and has future use in proteomics. The 4D Array System™ will be sold to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for use in their biological discovery, pharmaceutical screening, genetic diagnostic and individualized disease management research programs.

The 4D Array System™ is comprised of the unique 4D biochips, the hybridization station, and the detection station. The 4D biochips are based on MetriGenix' patented Flow-thru Chip™ technology. The Flow-thru Chip™ technology utilizes a novel "flow-through" design. This feature optimizes the surface area-to-volume ratio, which enables researchers to perform multiple determinations on a single array and achieve increased efficiency and superior performance in comparison to conventional microarrays. The fluid delivery system consists of two major components: a cartridge that guides the movement of fluid through the chip, and a fluidics station that directs fluid delivery to and from the cartridge. The 4D Array System™ has been designed so that a chip, once loaded, is not manipulated directly by a user at any point in the assay until the chip is ready to be imaged.

MetriGenix will offer a line of branded and custom array options within the 4D Array System™. The initial array options include:

- **Proliferation Array:** The Proliferation chip is designed to characterize the expression profiles of genes that are involved in cell cycle regulations in various cell proliferation phases. It also includes cell cycle regulators and checkpoint genes, DNA damage and replication checkpoints, mitotic spindle checkpoints, and a set of DNA repair enzymes and cell death genes.
- **Inflammation Array:** The general inflammation series-1 contains oligonucleotide probes for genes associated with inflammatory response. It contains genes for major cytokines, chemokines, interleukins and receptors, B and T lymphocyte associated molecules, and immunomodulatory factors. Also included are molecules associated with CTL mediated immune response against target cells, inflammatory response, antiviral response, and autoimmune response associated signaling pathways.

- **Lung Cancer Array:** Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer worldwide. On the basis of cell morphology, adenocarcinoma and squamous carcinoma are the most common types of NSCLC, accounting for nearly 80% of the disease. This array is designed to distinguish adenocarcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and normal lung samples.
- **Breast Cancer Array:** The breast cancer chip series-1 is designed to characterize the expression profiles of genes that are involved in breast cancer either by direct mutation or by alterations in gene expression. It also includes Estrogen-receptor (ER), p53, Bcl-2, pS2-regulated genes, and genes that are involved in methylation.
- **Neural Degeneration Array:** The Neurodegeneration array is designed to identify the gene expression profiles of neurodegenerative diseases such as: Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's and Multiple Sclerosis. In addition the arrays contain the oligonucleotide probes that are related to apoptosis, signal transducers and transcription factors, neurotoxicity, ischemia and trauma.
- **Custom 4D Arrays:** MetriGenix will design and produce custom arrays to meet customer's specific research needs. The 4D Custom Array is flexible and open for customization for content and density; it can contain from 50 to 192 probes per array, packaged in a 4D cartridge system. Custom arrays will be offered in a kit that includes 10 arrays with sufficient reagents to perform 10 assays.

Commenting on today's launch, Dr. Andrew O'Beirne, Dr.P.H., MetriGenix's President and Chief Executive Officer said, "The 4D Array System™ addresses the current market need for a scalable, flexible screening assay that provides significantly shorter hybridization times, enhanced binding/signal capacity, and increased automation relative to traditional flat biochips. The 4D Array System™ has been shown to significantly improve reaction signals and increase test kinetics while reducing the amounts of sample and reagents required. The speed and sensitivity of analyses using the 4D geometry make high-throughput, multiple-gene screening a clear possibility. Today's launch is the culmination of significant effort from the entire MetriGenix team. I look forward to establishing successful business relationships with the entire drug development community."

MetriGenix Overview

MetriGenix, Inc. is a biotechnology company focused on developing novel bioanalytical tools, based on its integrated Flow-thru Chip™ technology, for use in the drug discovery, pharmaceutical screening, genetic diagnostic and individualized disease management research programs of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies worldwide. For additional information about MetriGenix, the Flow-thru Chip™ technology and the 4D Array System™, please call 301/987-1716 or visit the Company Web site at www.metrigenix.com.

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