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imaGenes and DNAFORM Agree Far-Reaching Cooperation on Unique Resources and Technologies

Berlin and Yokohama, September 8, 2008 – imaGenes GmbH, Berlin, and K. K. DNAFORM, Yokohama, have entered into two agreements for the distribution and marketing of key resources developed at the Omics Sciences Center of the Japanese Institute for Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN).

The package comprises a Sublicensing Agreement, covering the worldwide distribution (except Japan and the UK where separate distribution agreements apply) of RIKEN's FANTOM Clones. The RIKEN's FANTOM Clone Set is a unique collection of more than 102,000 full-length sequenced cDNA clones, and the most comprehensive clone collection of any higher organism up to date. In addition, three topic collections are available in DNABook™ format, where the clones are printed on paper for storage at room temperature: Mouse Transcription Factor, Mouse Phosphatase, and Mouse Kinase DNABook™, each representing most known genes of the respective gene families.

Moreover, a Distribution Agreement covers the exclusive provision for Germany, Austria and Switzerland of RIKEN's Cap-Trapper technology for reliable full length cDNA library generation, giving unprecedented insight into gene regulation, gene splicing, or SNP analysis. The combination of the Cap-Trapper method with imaGenes' recently launched Deep Sequencing Service enables CAGE (Cap-Analysis-Gene-Expression) allowing for transcriptional network analysis and transcriptome characterization.

Johannes Maurer, imaGenes' Director Genomic Products & Marketing said "DNAFORM's unique technologies fits perfectly in our portfolio for Functional Gene Analysis and may largely contribute to our customers' projects in Gene Discovery, Gene Expression, and Promoter Identification." Matthias Harbers, DNAFORM's Chief Scientist added: "These technologies need expert knowledge. We are glad to cooperate with imaGenes as our partner and



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distributor because they have the expertise to apply them appropriately to all scientific problems. Using this service network is an ideal starting point for Gene Discovery and Network Studies in Systems Biology.”

300 words/2180 characters

About imaGenes :

imaGenes GmbH, Berlin, is a premier provider of genome research services in Europe and was founded in 2007 as a spin-off from RZPD (German Resource Center for Genome Research). imaGenes manages one of the most comprehensive collections of clones of mammalian and vertebrate genes in the world offered via its clone search engine GenomeCube®, linked to international databases. The second major research services of imaGenes features microarray services on Affymetrix, Agilent, and NimbleGen platforms for a broad range of functional analyses. imaGenes is also offering next generation sequencing services on an Illumina Genome Analyzer System. Researchers in academia and in the pharmaceutical industry are provided with highest quality resources and innovative technology with maximum flexibility and cost effectiveness. imaGenes is fully compliant with ISO 9001:2000 quality standards. A comprehensive overview can be found at www.imagenes-bio.de or www.rzpd.de

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About DNAFORM:

K.K. DNAFORM was established as the first venture company under a new initiative of the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN) for the utilization of the patented technologies developed by RIKEN scientists. With our commitment to innovative Precision Gene Technologies, developed together with the RIKEN Omics Center, we want to provide superior products and services for human diagnostics, food safety, and life science research. DNAFORM has provided the research community with RIKEN FANTOM Clones, established full-length cDNA cloning services, contributed to drug discovery by creating one of the world's most comprehensive human full-length cDNA collection, and developed the new CAGE Methodology for next generation expression profiling along with genome annotation. With our innovative SMartAmp™ Detection Method we are now on the move to provide distinct solutions in Molecular Diagnostics and related applied markets. A comprehensive overview can be found at <http://www.dnaform.jp>

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