

Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc. and Nitto Denko Corporation Announce Launch of NittoPhase®HL – High Loaded Solid Support for Oligonucleotide Synthesis

NittoPhase® HL Loaded up to 400umol/g delivers Market Leading Economies to Reduce Synthesis Costs and Increase Yields

Oceanside, CA (PRWEB) April 26, 2010

Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc., a California based subsidiary of Nitto Denko Corporation, and the market leader in solid support for oligonucleotide synthesis, will be launching its next generation high loading polymeric solid support product NittoPhase®HL for oligonucleotide synthesis at the TIDES meeting commencing in Boston on April 26th. In thorough testing, NittoPhase®HL loaded at 350umol/g and 250umol/g has shown consistently strong yields and excellent full length purity when utilized for DNA and RNA synthesis respectively. The product will also be commercialized loaded both with succinate and Universal Linker at various levels up to 400umol/g for various applications. Custom loadings included various modified linkers and loading levels will also be available. Kinovate will still continue to sell its market leading original NittoPhase® product.

Utilizing the unparalleled polymer synthesis and R&D capabilities of Nitto Denko Corporation, and the worldwide marketing operations of Kinovate Life Sciences, this new product promises to deliver significantly improved technical and economic outcomes for all segments of the oligonucleotide industry.

Solid support is the base structure used in the synthesis of oligonucleotides, including diagnostic probes and primers, antisense including RNAi, microRNA, DNA-based and aptamer drugs and represents a substantial portion of the cost to manufacture these oligonucleotides. The market leading loading capacity of NittoPhase®HL results in significantly improved yields per gram of material with superior purity, allowing users to realize significant cost savings with no compromise in quality.

“NittoPhase®HL truly represents a quantum leap in solid support technology for oligonucleotide synthesis. No other support on the market offers these extremely high loadings, together with consistently robust yields and purities. The increase in synthesis scale per gram of support will result in significant reductions in the per micromole costs of

oligonucleotide manufacture; not just directly related to the support, but also through the reduction in use of associated solvents and other reagents. Preliminary studies undertaken by an independent third party have shown a reduction in raw materials cost of 40%, equating with a 15% reduction in overall synthesis costs when using NittoPhase®HL.” stated Dr. Kenji Matsumoto, President of Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc.

Dr. Matsumoto added, “In particular, NittoPhase®HL represents a major breakthrough in the synthesis of RNAi drugs. Where previously Controlled Porous Glass (CPG) supports were dominant, NittoPhase®HL now offers a compelling alternative to overcome the technical limitations and costs of those products. Following on from the extraordinary success of our original NittoPhase® Solid Support product, which has fast become well established as the market leading solid support in the therapeutic oligonucleotide industry, NittoPhase®HL will cement Kinovate’s position as the market leader in this field.”

ABOUT SOLID SUPPORT

Manufacture of oligonucleotide drugs involves use of solid support matrix upon which chemical reactions occur in a cyclic manner. These reactions are performed on a fully automated synthesizer. At the end of synthesis, drugs are purified by various chromatographic techniques and characterized extensively to check their authenticity and purity. Thus solid support plays a crucial role in the manufacture of oligonucleotide drugs. It is increasingly believed that the yield of full-length oligonucleotide product is greatly influenced by the proper design of a polymeric support which undergoes roughly eighty chemical reactions in about eight hours for a 20-mer oligonucleotide.

ABOUT KINOVATE LIFE SCIENCES

Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc. is a subsidiary of Nitto Denko Corporation (Osaka, Japan). Whose mission is the commercialization and marketing of life science-related technologies developed by Nitto Denko Corporation and its Oceanside, CA based R&D subsidiary company Nitto Denko Technical Corporation. In April 2005, Kinovate launched NittoPhase® Solid Support for Oligonucleotide Synthesis, which has gone on to become the market leading product in its class.

ABOUT NITTO DENKO CORPORATION

Nitto Denko was founded in 1918 with its head office in Osaka, Japan. Fully utilizing its core technologies such as polymer synthesis, adhesion and coating technologies to add diverse functionality to sheets, films and other materials, Nitto Denko Group offers to the global market a wide range of high-value-added products including optical films for liquid crystal displays, automotive materials and parts, reverse osmosis membranes for seawater desalination, transdermal drug delivery patches, and much more. Additional information about Nitto Denko Corporation is available at www.nitto.com.

KINOVATE LIFE SCIENCES, INC. FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT

This press release contains forward looking statements concerning research & development

of polymer materials related to the life sciences area developed and commercialized by Kinovate Life Sciences Inc. and its affiliates, including solid support for oligonucleotide synthesis. Any and all statements concerning Kinovate's claims, intentions, beliefs, etc should be considered forward looking statements and as such at-risk. Statements made above, including those concerning testing results should be considered observed values, not guaranteed values, and actual results may differ materially from those mentioned above. Readers of this press release are cautioned to not rely solely on the forward-looking statements contained above.

Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nitto Denko Corporation.

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