

Announcement no. 1/2008

To OMX The Nordic Exchange Copenhagen and the press

Vedbæk, January 21, 2008

EXIQON ENTERS INTO A DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE ONCOTECH INC AND ENTERS THE MARKET FOR CANCER MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS

Summary: Exiqon A/S (OMX: EXQ) has entered into a final and definitive agreement under which Exiqon will acquire California-based Oncotech Inc., a leading supplier of extreme drug resistance diagnostic tests in cancer. The merger of the two companies will create a world leader in molecular diagnostic products based on miRNA.

The consideration amounts to approximately USD 45 million (DKK 225 million) and will be paid through approximately 6.2 million new shares in Exiqon A/S which, however, will be reduced for debt. The transaction is expected to close in February 2008, subject to the issue of the new shares, the announcement of a prospectus and customary conditions. The company will convene an extraordinary general meeting on January 31, 2008 with a view to obtain authorization for the issue of new shares.

All other terms remain as stated in Exiqon's stock exchange announcement no. 22/2007 of November 27, 2007.

Exiqon will now master all elements of the molecular diagnostic product development process, including biomarker identification, assay development, clinical studies, CLIA laboratory facilities, sales and marketing competences and knowledge of reimbursement schemes.

The transaction will not compromise Exiqon's financial goal of reaching profitability by 2011 with its current cash position and to break even in the research products business during 2009.

For more information, please contact:

Lars Kongsbak, President and CEO, tel. + 45 40 90 21 01

Hans Henrik Chrois Christensen, CFO, tel. +45 45 65 09 53 or + 45 40 90 21 31

About miRNA

microRNAs (miRNAs) are a novel class of regulatory RNA molecules with surprisingly widespread effects on gene regulation. Although recently identified as a class of molecules, initial studies indicate that miRNAs may regulate 30% or more of all genes in the genome, thus comprising an up till now hidden level of regulation. Interestingly, miRNAs have already been found to play important roles in several types of cancers and in processes involved in cellular differentiation. In the cells, miRNAs are found in form of single-stranded RNA molecules, which are typically 20-24 nucleotides long in their active form.

About extreme drug resistance (EDR) tests

Extreme Drug Resistance ("EDR") Assay: The EDR assay represents Oncotech's flagship product, which accounted for approximately 60% of the Company's revenues in 2006. Drug resistance is the principal reason that chemotherapy so often fails. Oncotech's laboratory has the unique ability to identify drug resistance in cancer patients prior to chemotherapy treatment, saving them unnecessary treatment related morbidity and cost. Oncotech performs laboratory testing of fresh human tumor tissue collected at the time of surgery.

The EDR assay requires fresh viable malignant tumor tissue sent to Oncotech immediately following surgery. At Oncotech, the specimens are mechanically minced and enzymatically dissociated into tumor cell clusters. These clusters are then plated in soft agar to ensure tumor cell specificity and then undergo tumor type specific

suprapharmacologic exposures chemotherapeutic agents for five days in a carefully controlled environment that closely mimics conditions within the human body. Tritiated thymidine is introduced during the last two days testing as a measure of DNA synthesis and cell proliferation. If malignant cells proliferate under such extreme chemotherapeutic exposure conditions, then the significantly reduced exposures that can be delivered safely *in vivo* will be ineffective with a probability greater than 99.2%.

About LNA™

LNA is a class of nucleotide analogues that bind very strongly to RNA and DNA targets. By including LNAs in detection probes, it is possible to design very specific high-affinity detection assays for small RNA targets like miRNAs, which otherwise is not possible using standard DNA-based detection probes.

About Oncotech

Oncotech was incorporated in 1985 and is located in Tustin, California, USA. Oncotech's internet address is www.oncotech.com.

Oncotech is a specialized cancer laboratory and molecular diagnostics company that provides information to cancer treating physicians, academic institutions and hospitals worldwide. Oncotech's goal is to individualize cancer therapy for patients by predicting drug response to chemotherapeutics and the likelihood of cancer relapse.

Oncotech offers all its products and services through a CLIA approved and CAP certified laboratory in Tustin, California. Oncotech's product offering includes two proprietary drug resistance assays, (the EDR and DiSC assays) and a full line of specialized molecular tests including immunohistochemistry ("IHC"), flow cytometry, immunophenotyping, FISH, molecular diagnostics and pathology services. All tests are performed by certified laboratory scientists and other scientific and technical personnel. Oncotech is accountable to State and Federal CLIA laws requiring proper clinical laboratory staffing and licensure. Only properly licensed medical technologists and technicians can perform certain tests, which is determined by the type and complexity of the test.

In 2001, Oncotech moved to a new 44,000 square-foot leased facility that included complete laboratory and research facilities with significant room for growth. Today Oncotech is a specialized cancer laboratory that provides oncology related information to over 7,000 cancer-treating physicians and approximately 1,200 hospitals, including Cedars-Sinai, Memorial Sloan-Kettering, Johns Hopkins, UCLA, the Mayo Clinic and Massachusetts General. In addition, Oncotech has an extensive tumor bank that includes 40,000 viable tumors and 150,000 paraffin embedded blocks. Building on its extensive experience in oncology, Oncotech is employing its tumor bank and research capabilities to develop next generation proprietary molecular diagnostic products and believes that it is at the forefront of applying gene-based technologies to individualize cancer therapy.

About Exiqon

Exiqon's corporate mission is to combine leading-edge scientific expertise in gene expression with our proprietary LNA™ technology. Exiqon's products, services and scientific staff enable life science researchers to make groundbreaking discoveries. Moreover, Exiqon is addressing the unmet need for a new approach to the diagnosis of cancer. Exiqon's products are based on patented technology (LNA™ or Locked Nucleic Acids) that facilitates very precise and sensitive analysis of nucleic acids. Exiqon aims to expand the existing product offering for research use as well as to develop new proprietary molecular diagnostic products. Exiqon, through a number of recent initiatives, has positioned itself as a significant player in applying miRNA as the key biomarker in cancer diagnostics.

Disclaimer

Forward-looking statements:

This announcement contains forward-looking statements regarding Exiqon's potential future development and financial performance and other statements which are not historical facts. Such statements are made on the basis of assumptions and expectations which, to the best of Exiqon's knowledge, are reasonable and well-founded at this time, but which may prove to be erroneous. Exiqon's operations are characterized by the fact that its actual results may deviate significantly from that described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected.

This announcement is not an offer of securities for sale in Exiqon. The shares in Exiqon have not been registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or any State securities laws and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to U.S. persons absent from registration under or an applicable exemption from the registration requirements of the United States securities laws and applicable State securities laws.