



MEDIA RELEASE

April 14, 2009

A new search engine for natural peptides yields up to 5 times more potential drug leads



Proteomics International has developed a new peptide drug discovery process, and the preliminary results are positive.

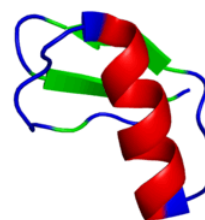
Working with venoms from scorpions, centipedes and spiders from central Australia's desert arthropods, **the company has developed an entirely new way of validating potential peptide drug candidates.**

The company's integrated Bioven process uses mass spectrometry and a series of proprietary algorithms to determine peptide identity and to predict, by homology matching, the function of the peptides. The remarkable finding is that up to five times more potential drug candidates can be recovered from one venom than previously achieved.

Why venoms? There is a history of successful lead to drug outcomes in the field of venoms. Every venomous creature has developed over millions of years a selected set of peptides and proteins that have specific functions whether in defence or attack. The company says it can expect to find a range of bioactive peptides, which could include neurotoxins, analgesics, anti-microbials and more.

Managing Director, Dr Richard Lipscombe is confident about the development. *"Not only can we predict what a found peptide might do in a pharmaceutical sense, but with our in-house manufacturing, we can produce these peptides quickly in order to complete early pre-clinical trials"*, he said.

Scorpion toxin protein



Whilst continuing to process new venoms for potential drug leads, the company's ever expanding peptide library is regularly compared to in-house databases of known functional sequences, thus providing the company with a limitless resource and an early entry into any future markets. The origin of their new peptides is the remote outback - in the middle of Australia near the town of Alice Springs. Under an agreement with the Northern Territory government, Proteomics International is able to collect scorpions, spiders and centipedes using a team of expert collectors.

In the first few months of full operation, several thousand molecules have been found and potential bioactivity predicted. Proteomics International is up-beat about achieving this important milestone and is confident that it can further develop a range of peptides with different therapeutic indications.

About Proteomics International Pty Ltd

Proteomics International is both a contract service provider and research and development company, focused on providing quality analytical services to the biological research market and on developing value from protein drug discovery. High quality, quick and affordable protein identification, analytical and characterization services are routinely provided. Proteomics International combines the most advanced high throughput mass spectrometry instrumentation (MALDI TOF-TOF and LC-MS/MS) and a strong team of qualified scientists with proven expertise in protein and peptide chemistry. The company has two focal research activities; analysis of venoms and the discovery and use of biomarkers from a variety of tissue sources. Skills developed from these research programs are incorporated into the sophisticated suite of specialist contract research techniques provided to clients. Proteomics International is based in Perth, Western Australia and has established itself as an industry leader in the delivery of contract research and lead molecule discovery services in the Asia Pacific region. The company boasts an impressive array of clients from the pharmaceutical industry and the company has established strategic partnerships with key stakeholders in Singapore, Australia and India for discovery purposes.

For more information contact:

Mr Barry Epstein
VP Marketing
Telephone +61 8 9389 1992
Facsimile +61 8 9389 1981
Email barry@proteomics.com.au
Website www.proteomics.com.au