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COMPANY PRESS RELEASE

Transgenomic WAVE[®] System Enables Analysis of Polymicrobial Infections Observed in Transplant Patients

Simultaneous Analysis of DNA from Multiple Bacterial Species Present in a Single Specimen Offers Opportunity to Address New Markets

Lake Tahoe, Nev., Oct. 16, 2003 -- Transgenomic, Inc. ([Nasdaq:TBIO](#)) announced today that an application of its WAVE System will be highlighted in a presentation at the American Society of Microbiology Conference on Polymicrobial Diseases, to be held October 19 -23 in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. This conference deals with the potential causes of infectious diseases that involve multiple microbial pathogens. The WAVE application to be highlighted represents a novel approach to the molecular analysis of bacterial species diversity in urinary tract specimens obtained from immunosuppressed kidney transplant patients.

While the WAVE System is often used to detect genetic variations relative to a normal (or reference) copy of a gene of interest, this new application capitalizes on its ability to separate several similarly- or identically-sized DNA fragments that differ among bacterial species in their exact DNA sequence. This produces an output on the WAVE System consisting of distinct peak profiles, which facilitates identification of the various individual species in the specimen from which the DNA was obtained. Importantly, individual DNA fragments can be isolated following separation on the WAVE System, enabling the DNA sequence analysis of specific fragments derived from each species in a mixture.

Dr. Trinad Chakraborty, Director, Institute of Medical Microbiology, Hospital of the Justus-Liebig University Giessen in Giessen, Germany, and his colleague Dr. Eugen Domann, commented on the significance of their group's use of the WAVE System. "Because of treatment with immunosuppressive drugs, kidney transplant patients suffer not only from infection by common pathogens, but are also prone to opportunistic infections with unusual pathogens. Although culture-based and biochemical microbial identification strategies are useful for many of the common causative agents in urinary tract infections, fastidious, non-cultivable or unusual organisms may escape detection by these methods." Dr. Chakraborty continued, "Using the WAVE, we were able to provide evidence of infection in culture-negative specimens, distinguish between closely related bacterial species, and to identify as many as five different species in the same sample. The throughput capacity of the current instrumentation is sufficient to take this technology into the realm of clinical and translational microbiological research, as well as other applications."

Collin D'Silva, Transgenomic's CEO, pointed out that use of the WAVE System in this setting provides an example of its potential to offer unique solutions of a broad range of challenging analytical problems, resulting in access to new market opportunities. "The excellent work of Dr. Chakraborty's group represents a novel application of our technology that has far-reaching implications. There has been considerable progress in molecular approaches to the identification of bacterial species. However, existing strategies for the analysis of mixed microbial infections typically require labor-intensive and time-consuming manual techniques that

do not readily allow for isolation and collection of individual DNA fragments for subsequent DNA sequencing.” D’Silva continued, “We believe that in addition to the specific application to be described at this conference, the WAVE System will also prove valuable in the analysis of other polymicrobial infections involving viral, fungal and parasitic pathogens, as well as in the evaluation of complex environmental microbial communities.”

About Transgenomic

Transgenomic provides versatile and innovative research tools and related consumable products to the life sciences industry for the synthesis, separation, analysis and purification of nucleic acids and a wide variety of nucleic acid-based specialty chemicals. Transgenomic’s biosystems segment offers its WAVE Systems and associated consumables. These systems are specifically designed for use in genetic variation detection and single- and double-strand DNA/RNA analysis and purification. These systems have broad applicability to genetic research and molecular diagnostics. To date there have been approximately one thousand systems installed in over 30 countries around the world.

Through its nucleic acids business segment, Transgenomic provides specialty chemicals, including advanced nucleic acid building blocks and associated reagents, used in applications such as genetic diagnostics and therapeutics. Manufacturing operations include a cGMP facility for the synthesis of oligonucleotides.

For more information about the innovative genomics research tools developed and marketed by Transgenomic, please visit the Company’s Web site at www.transgenomic.com.

Forward-Looking Statement

Certain statements in this press release constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those with respect to the potential of the WAVE System to offer unique solutions of a broad range of challenging analytical problems, resulting in access to new market opportunities. The known risks, uncertainties and other factors affecting these forward-looking statements are described from time to time in Transgenomic’s reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Any change in such factors, risks and uncertainties may cause the actual results, events and performance to differ materially from those referred to in such statements. Accordingly, Transgenomic claims the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 with respect to all statements contained in this press release. All information in this press release is as of the date of the release, and Transgenomic undertakes no duty to update this information, including any forward-looking statement, unless required by law.

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For confirmation of release or further information, please contact:

Mitchell L. Murphy
Transgenomic, Inc.
402-452-5437
mmurphy@transgenomic.com

Rob Pogulis

Transgenomic, Inc.
845-782-9617
rpogulis@transgenomic.com