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Basel, 15 January 2007

Roche Diagnostics and Multilyte Limited sign Licence Agreement

Agreement broadens Roche Diagnostics' position in the immunodiagnostic business

Roche Diagnostics and Multilyte Limited today announced that they have concluded an Agreement which grants Roche Diagnostics a licence under Multilyte's patents for sensitive multiparameter binding assays, including immunoassays, enabling simultaneous detection and analysis of many different analytes in small test samples of biological origin.

Under the terms of the Agreement Multilyte grants to Roche Diagnostics a licence and Roche Diagnostics will pay a licence issuance fee and running royalties on the sale of products covered by one or more claims of the patents licensed from Multilyte. Financials of the deal were not disclosed.

The immunodiagnostic market is the largest segment in the in-vitro diagnostics market with a current value of 9 billion Swiss francs. The Agreement allows Roche Diagnostics to develop ultra sensitive microarray-based immunoassay and other binding assay systems capable of simultaneously detecting and measuring the concentrations of multiple analytes in a single reaction and will broaden the company's immunodiagnostic menu.

About Multilyte Limited

Multilyte Ltd. is a company founded in 1988 by Professor Roger Ekins, FRS, head of Molecular Endocrinology, University College London. Shareholders are University College London and Prof. Ekins. Multilyte owns all Prof. Ekins' intellectual property in the field of multianalyte testing including basic and other formats, detection systems, etc. Prof. Ekins, who is also well known as a pioneer in the field

of radioimmunoassay and other highly sensitive label-based binding assays, including the assays in blood of non-protein bound or “free” hormones and drugs, has received numerous awards for his work in the microarray and binding assay field including the American Association of Clinical Chemistry’s first T.E. Ullman award, the Prince of Wales Award for Innovation and, more recently, the UK Department of Health’s first Lifetime Achievement Award for scientific contributions to patient healthcare.

About Roche and the Roche Diagnostics Division

Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Roche is one of the world’s leading research-focused healthcare groups in the fields of pharmaceuticals and diagnostics. As a supplier of innovative products and services for the early detection, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease, the group contributes on a broad range of fronts to improving people’s health and quality of life. Roche is a world leader in diagnostics, the leading supplier of medicines for cancer and transplantation and a market leader in virology. Roche employs roughly 70,000 people in 150 countries and has R&D agreements and strategic alliances with numerous partners, including majority ownership interests in Genentech and Chugai. Roche’s Diagnostics Division offers a uniquely broad product portfolio and supplies a wide array of innovative testing products and services to researchers, physicians, patients, hospitals and laboratories world-wide. For further information, please visit our websites www.roche.com.

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