

PRESS RELEASE
1st December 2009



Aquapharm Strengthens Management Team with the Appointment of Research Director

Oban, Scotland – 1st December 2009: Aquapharm Biodiscovery Ltd, a leading marine biotechnology company, is pleased to announce it has appointed Dr. Lloyd Payne as its Research Director.

Lloyd has joined Aquapharm to drive forward the discovery and development of novel bioactives derived from the company's unique collection of marine micro-organisms. To further increase the accessibility of this collection, Aquapharm is currently building one of the world's largest marine derived compound libraries and Lloyd's exceptional scientific leadership and vision will be integral to its successful delivery in 2010. Upon its completion, the compound library will accelerate Aquapharm's discovery efforts, principally in the anti-microbial field, as well as acting as a source of additional revenue for the company through selected screening partnerships.

Lloyd has an exemplary scientific track record leading discovery programmes from early hit validation through to candidate selection and early development. He joins Aquapharm from F2G Ltd where, as Chief Scientific Officer, he led several programmes and played a major role in the discovery and optimisation of a new class of antifungal agent with a new mechanism of action transforming it from a promising hit into a clinical drug candidate. Prior to F2G, Lloyd was a senior scientist at Millennium Pharmaceuticals responsible for the leadership of multidisciplinary drug discovery project teams based in the UK and the US. Lloyd has also held senior scientific and management positions within Cambridge Discovery Chemistry and NCE Discovery (latterly Domainex).

Dr. Andrew Mearns Spragg, CEO of Aquapharm said *"We are delighted to welcome Lloyd to Aquapharm to head up our research activities. He brings with him a wealth of experience in bioactive discovery and lead optimisation. Lloyd's appointment further strengthens our management team as we endeavour to accelerate the discovery and development of scientifically validated marine bioactives derived from our unique collection of marine micro-organisms. I feel Lloyd's appointment marks a step change in our discovery efforts and I'm excited to be working with him to drive Aquapharm's candidates forward."*

Commenting on his appointment, Lloyd said *"I'm looking forward to making a big contribution to realising the potential of Aquapharm's marine microbe collection, particularly the delivery of one of the world's largest marine-derived compound libraries in 2010 and working with the team to identify and develop high value bioactives for commercialisation."*

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Notes to Editors

About Aquapharm Biodiscovery Ltd.

Aquapharm is a leading marine biotechnology company pioneering the discovery, isolation and development of novel, marine-derived bioactives for application in a wide range of commercial sectors, including pharmaceuticals, functional ingredients and industrial biotechnology. The company is based at the European Centre for Marine Biotechnology in Oban, Scotland.

Aquapharm has built a substantial and specialised collection of marine bacteria and fungi from a variety of diverse habitats. Through the application of its proprietary technologies to this collection, the company has been able to stimulate the production of novel, biologically active products with broad chemical diversity. To accelerate its discovery efforts, Aquapharm is currently preparing one of the world's largest marine-derived compound libraries.

For more information, please see www.aquapharm.co.uk

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