

Media Coverage

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AUSBIOTECH 2009 HIGHLIGHTS INVESTMENT POTENTIAL OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

Singapore, Jul 22, 2009: Australia's national body for the biotechnology and life sciences industry, AusBiotech, today announced *AusBiotech 2009* - the premier Australasian biotechnology conference, that will focus on highlighting investment opportunities in the Asia Pacific region.

The conference will showcase biotechnology research and development from companies across the region, highlighting to representatives of biotech, investment and pharmaceutical sectors from around the world the high calibre of investment potential, a prepared company release said.

"The Asia-Pac region has a strong history of producing world leading science and research. Australia in particular is regarded highly as a world-class location for conducting clinical trials," said Dr Anna Lavelle, CEO of AusBiotech.

"We have gathered high-profile figures from the international biotech, investment and pharmaceutical communities to offer an insight into the current state of the sector and the opportunities for investment in local R&D," Dr Lavelle continued.

Following the success of last year's conference which attracted over 1,300 delegates from 32 countries, *AusBiotech 2009* will be held in Melbourne from 27 -30 October 2009 and will feature a comprehensive four-day program. The program will provide four biotechnology streams: human health; medical technology; agriculture, industrial and food; and investment and business.

The event will commence with the inaugural *Australasian Life Sciences Investment Summit*, an invitation only event for investors. The event includes the *BioIndustry Exhibition* which provides a showcase of businesses and products in a specially designed exhibition area, and the *Business Matching Program* that matches delegates in a biopartnering system, offering ideal networking opportunities. Last year 2,608 meeting requests led to 1,226 confirmed meetings through the program.

The conference presentations cover a range of issues relevant to the biotechnology and investment community. Some of the topics to be covered include: Biopharmaceuticals in a Post-GFC World; Global Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities; Product Development and Regulatory Aspects in Asia Pacific; and Changing Business Models and New Financial Opportunities and Health Technologies. Both international and local companies will be well represented at the conference including CSL; Baxter Healthcare; ABN AMRO Morgans; Biota Holdings; Merck Sharp and Dohme; Roche; J.P Morgans; and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

"This is a must-attend event for individuals and companies who wish to engage with the Australasian biotechnology industry and network with representatives from multi-national organisations and investors in the region. Delegates at the conference will experience first-hand the enormous investment potential in the region," said Dr Lavelle.