



PRESS RELEASE

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deltaDOT Ltd and Integrated Technologies receive £465k Grant from South East England Development Agency to develop Osprey, a decisive new tool in drug discovery

London, UK, 4 June 2007 - deltaDOT Ltd and Integrated Technologies (ITL) are pleased to announce that they have been awarded a £465,000 Grant from the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) for the commercial development of a highly innovative tool for drug discovery and biopharmaceuticals.

The three parties will use this new funding to build a novel system, based on a prototype successfully constructed under the highly effective DTI-EPSC 'Applied Genomics' programme. This programme was led by deltaDOT and Imperial College, which together form the Protein Folding Chip Consortium.

The proposed new drug discovery tool, Osprey, was initially developed by deltaDOT, a developer of highly innovative enabling technologies and products for bioscience research. Osprey will allow researchers to reduce dramatically the time it takes to weed out drug candidates that are unsuitable for the therapy or treatment being designed. Typically, so-called 'small molecule' drug candidates effect physiological change at a sub-cellular level by attaching to or in some way affecting proteins within the cell. The small molecule drug candidates attach to proteins according to the highly complex protein structures, of which their folding or unfolding is perhaps the most important.

Traditionally, large pharmaceutical companies search molecular compound libraries containing millions of drug candidates to identify a small number of molecules that, by binding to the protein associated with a disease, might potentially offer a patient any benefit. There are many tools in use, but progress is usually slow and prone to error, which partly accounts for the typically huge (\$850m (£430m)) research costs that are spent for every successful 'block-buster' drug.

The Osprey will provide a very powerful new weapon in the drug hunters' armoury, allowing, for the first time, protein folding structures and the dynamics of the process to be tested against the drug candidate.

The Osprey Biomolecule Stability Analyser (BSA) is a microfluidic chip-based instrument that applies aspects of deltaDOT's Label Free Intrinsic Imaging™ (LFII™) to the characterisation of the properties of proteins, rather than to their separations, and targets the market for QA/QC of biopharmaceuticals as its first application.

Dr Tony Baxter, CEO of deltaDOT said: "Osprey is the third of deltaDOT's fleet of productivity tools, and has the potential to transform the drug discovery landscape. This instrument offers a one-stop solution to the increasingly difficult R&D environment of the world's drug discovery and development companies, many of which are located in the South East of England. We are delighted that SEEDA has awarded this significant development grant; it will serve to reinforce further deltaDOT's lead in label-free technologies serving the biomedical communities, and will bring renewed R&D focus and technological leadership to our region".

Dr Greg Smith, Director of ITL, said: "As a world leader in analytical instrument design and manufacture, ITL is delighted to be able to contribute over 30 years' successful experience to assist the consortium in developing this important instrument. The system will have far-reaching implications for the world pharmaceutical industry and should reduce drug selection times dramatically. Again it shows that the UK, and in particular the South East, is among the top innovators in the Biotech world".



SEEDA's Knowledge Transfer Manager, Colin Baldwin said: "This pioneering and visionary work will have a dramatic impact both in terms of accelerating progress in drug discovery as well as benefiting patients in terms of new applications of drugs. SEEDA recognises the pivotal roles that all the partners will play in this critical collaborative venture. Above all, this is testimony to the world class research, development, innovation and leadership that is synonymous with the biotechnology industry throughout the South East. It is crucial that this industry continues to be a thriving and vibrant beacon for the region."

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Notes to editors:

About deltaDOT Ltd

deltaDOT (<http://www.deltadot.com>) is a biotechnology company that is developing and commercialising highly innovative enabling technologies and products in the bioscience arena. The company was founded in 2000 and is a spin-out from Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine in London, UK. It is focused on the harnessing of cutting-edge particle physics technology and its application to the needs of biomolecular separation, including proteins, DNA and RNA analysis. The company has a strong proprietary position and extensive expertise in instrumentation, microfluidics, automation, computing and analysis which will contribute to improvements in knowledge, profitability and process time throughout drug discovery and general life sciences research.

About Integrated Technologies Ltd

Integrated Technologies Ltd (ITL) (www.itl.co.uk) is an engineering company which designs and manufactures medical, diagnostic and analytical instruments under contract for third parties. It works within the constraint of its New Product Development Lifecycle which documents all the necessary steps, checks and balances to enable a controlled and structured development programme to be followed. With well over 30 years' experience, ITL gives its customers the confidence to invest their time and money in development programmes knowing that they have full visibility of the development and are in total control. ITL's aim is to provide a time and cost effective development programme leading to controlled manufacture in its own 2000m² facility. ITL is ISO9001: 2000 BSEN 13485: 2003 and FDA GMP audited and accredited throughout.

About SEEDA

SEEDA (www.seeda.co.uk) is the Government funded agency responsible for the sustainable economic development and regeneration of the South East of England - the driving force of the UK's economy. Our aim is to create a prosperous, dynamic and inspirational region by helping businesses compete more effectively, training a highly skilled workforce, supporting and enabling our communities while safeguarding our natural resources and cherishing our rich cultural heritage.



About Label Free Intrinsic Imaging (LFII™)

deltaDOT's core technology, Label Free Intrinsic Imaging (LFII™), coupled with proprietary powerful analyses, forms the basis of its product offering. LFII allows the direct monitoring of unlabelled biomolecules in real time, resulting in much faster, more accurate results at a fraction of the cost of conventional approaches. deltaDOT is selling its flagship product, the Peregrine, a high throughput protein analysis system. Other products being developed are Merlin, the world's first label free DNA sequencing instrument, and systems capable of rapid, unbiased analysis of genomic, proteomic and chemical content of unknown substances and threats.