

Press Release



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Zen-Bio, Inc. and Magellan BioScience Group, Inc. Announce Drug Discovery Collaboration

Research Triangle Park, NC and Tampa, FL (21 September 2009) – Magellan BioScience Group, Inc. (Magellan), a pioneer in innovative drug development from marine sources, and Zen-Bio, Inc. (Zen-Bio) announced today that they will begin a multidisciplinary drug discovery collaboration to identify novel marine microbial compounds that have potential as tools for biological research and ultimately the discovery of new medicines.

This collaboration will bring together Magellan's unique collection of marine-derived microorganisms and their natural product chemistry expertise with Zen-Bio's high throughput small molecule screening technologies for human metabolic diseases. The Zen-Bio-Magellan team will utilize Zen-Bio's screening system to run bioassays and characterize lead candidates from the collection. The two company's teams of Chemists will then optimize novel compounds to afford potential biological probes and preclinical drug candidates. The groups' combined expertise in medicinal chemistry approaches and access to novel screening technologies will accelerate early discovery and drug development efforts.

"Magellan is pleased to have this opportunity to partner with Zen-Bio in its efforts to leveraging our expertise in a broad spectrum of drug discovery services to develop potential treatments," said John M. Cronan Jr., Ph.D., vice president, discovery research & development at Magellan. "Based on the potential success of this first phase, we will have the ability to provide lead optimization services including medicinal chemistry and in vitro metabolism, making for a fully integrated drug discovery project in terms of time, quality and efficient use of resources."

"We're looking forward to working with Magellan to screen their unique natural compound collection", said Ben Buehrer, Ph.D., vice president of Zen-Bio. "By using our human skeletal muscle, adipocyte, and hepatocyte systems we have an opportunity to identify lead compounds that affect the major metabolic tissues in the body. Magellan's natural product expertise will not only allow initial screening, but critical follow-up chemistry for lead development."

About Magellan:

Magellan BioScience Group, Inc., based in Tampa, Fla., is a privately held innovative biotechnology company focused on the discovery of novel classes of therapeutic candidates. Magellan is using its integrated platform technologies to isolate and identify new biologically active compounds. The company believes that its library of marine microbes will be the next source of drug discovery for the pharmaceutical industry. Magellan aims to develop and optimize drug candidates to treat cancer, infectious diseases, and inflammation. For additional information, please refer to the company's web site at www.magellanbioscience.com or call (727) 865-1300 or e-mail Todd Daviau, tdaviau@magellanbioscience.com.

About Zen-Bio, Inc.

Zen-Bio, Inc. is a leading provider of research tools for the study of human metabolic disease. The company, founded in 1995 performs contract research for major pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies around the world. The company pioneered tissue engineering with adult adipose-derived stem cells and is currently

researching the role obesity plays in the development and onset of metabolic disease. Its mission is to provide the highest quality cells, reagents and contract services to the biomedical research community; to develop and commercialize research tools; and to offer tailored solutions for metabolic diseases through research and development and strategic alliances. For more information visit the company website at www.zen-bio.com or call (919)-547-0692; 1-866-ADIPOSE or e-mail Peter Pieraccini peter@zen-bio.com