



Charles River Laboratories Implements BioTrove High-Throughput SNP Genotyping System

April 18, 2006

WILMINGTON, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 18, 2006--Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. (NYSE: CRL), a premier global provider of solutions that advance the drug discovery and development process, announces that it has adopted the OpenArray(TM) SNP Genotyping System from BioTrove. The BioTrove OpenArray platform will be used in Charles River's rigorous genetic quality control process. Using this high-throughput genotyping platform, Charles River will be able to rapidly analyze thousands of samples for SNP analysis per month, ensuring researchers the congenicity of their inbred and first generation hybrid strains used in biomedical studies. The OpenArray platform produces thousands of parallel PCR reactions for SNP analysis utilizing standard homogeneous assays. Now, researchers may rapidly test validated SNPs of interest against hundreds or even thousands of DNA samples.

"We have been impressed with the BioTrove OpenArray platform in many ways. The BioTrove's flexibility, strong genotyping performance, and throughput capabilities make quality control testing of multiple samples possible using many more genetic markers. In addition, the OpenArrays can be formatted in any configuration to provide for future applications," said Dr. Bruce Elder, Director of Corporate Rodent Genetics at Charles River Laboratories.

"We are pleased to be working with a market leader like Charles River. Their implementation of high-throughput sample genotyping will enable them to quickly respond to their customers' needs today with the ability to expand as their genetic testing services continue to grow," said Alan Carter, Chief of Commercial Operations.

About Charles River Laboratories

Charles River Laboratories, based in Wilmington, Massachusetts, U.S., is a global provider of solutions that advance the drug discovery and development process. Our leading-edge products and services are designed to enable our clients to bring drugs to market faster and more efficiently. Backed by our rigorous, best-in-class procedures and our proven data collection, analysis and reporting capabilities, our products and services are organized into three categories spanning every step of the drug development pipeline: Research Models and Services, Preclinical Services, and Clinical Services. Charles River's customer base includes all of the major pharmaceutical companies and many biotechnology companies, government agencies and leading hospitals and academic institutions. Charles River's 8,400 employees serve clients in more than 50 countries. For more information on Charles River, visit our website at www.criver.com.

About BioTrove

BioTrove offers two innovative platform technologies that dramatically increase the throughput of SNP genotyping and pharmaceutical screening.

The OpenArray(TM) platform enables genomics researchers to generate up to hundreds of thousands of data points per day. The flexible format of the OpenArray(TM) plate allows researchers to adjust to their changing needs in sample and assay numbers. Additionally, the nanoliter scale of this flexible system makes high-throughput genotyping economical.

RapidFire(TM) Lead Discovery enables drug developers to analyze samples using ultra high-throughput mass spectrometry in less than 8 seconds per sample. This technology enables difficult targets (lipids, fatty acids, phospholipids, steroids, and prostaglandins) to be tested using a high-throughput, native detection method.

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SOURCE: Charles River Laboratories