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Molecular Staging Inc. Awarded Three Additional Patents for Rolling Circle Amplification Technology

NEW HAVEN, April 4, 2002/-- Molecular Staging Inc. (MSI) today announced that it has been awarded three additional patents for Rolling Circle Amplification Technology (RCAT™). MSI now has a total of fourteen issued patents in the U.S., Europe and Australia covering this technology and its applications.

“These issued patents continue to broaden MSI’s fundamental coverage of the rolling circle amplification process,” said Dr. Stephen Kingsmore, Chief Operating Officer of MSI. “They add to the already extensive intellectual property estate surrounding MSI’s Rolling Circle Amplification Technology.”

RCAT detects and measures proteins and nucleic acids with unprecedented sensitivity and multiplexing capabilities. It is a proprietary isothermal amplification process that uniquely enables amplification of a signal tethered to proteins as well as nucleic acids. The signal remains attached to the analyte or target of interest, enabling simultaneous measurement of many different proteins and nucleic acids.

The three new patents added to the MSI portfolio include:

U.S. Patent Number 6,344,329 “Rolling Circle Replication Reporter Systems” was issued to Dr. Paul Lizardi of Yale University on February 5th, 2002 and is exclusively licensed by MSI. This patent broadly covers detection of analytes in biological samples using Rolling Circle Amplification Technology.

U.S. Patent number 5,648,245, issued in 1997 to Drs. Fire and Xu from Carnegie Institute, Washington, DC and exclusively licensed by MSI, covers the use of a primer to bridge an open DNA circle and close that circle. This expands MSI’s fundamental protection of the rolling circle amplification process. This patent also covers making libraries of biomolecules by this method and using Rolling Circle Amplification Technology to expand them.

U.S. Patent Number 6,329,150 “Unimolecular Segment Amplification and Sequencing” was issued on December 11, 2001 to Dr. Paul Lizardi of Yale University and is exclusively licensed by MSI. MSI is a privately held life science company developing a portfolio of proprietary technologies that are transforming the detection and measurement of proteins and nucleic acids. MSI’s technologies, combined with sophisticated bioinformatics, broadly enable a wide range of products and services across multiple health care markets. One of MSI’s core technologies is Rolling Circle Amplification Technology (RCAT™), an amplification process that has significant advantages in terms of sensitivity, multiplexing, dynamic range and scalability. MSI has exclusively licensed RCAT from Yale University. Additional information about MSI can be found at www.molecularstaging.com.