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For immediate release

Bionest Partners chairs BIO 2007 Super Session on pandemic flu preparedness

Boston, May 7, 2007- This morning, Dr Daniel Teper, Bionest Partners' Managing Director, North America, chaired the BIO 2007 Super Session: **The Pandemic Flu Syndrome: Are we ready for the big one ...or just crossing our fingers.**

Participants included **Dr. Bruce Gellin**, Director of National Vaccine Program and Senior Advisor to Secretary Leavitt, Health and Human Services, **James Young, PhD**, President of Research & Development, Medimmune, Inc, **Gary Ziezula**, Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations, Roche and **David M. Ozonoff**, MD, MPH, Professor and Chairman emeritus, Environmental Health, Boston University School of Public Health.

This Super Session was organized with the support of MedImmune, Inc. and EuroBio.

The panellists discussed the US preparedness plan, the rapid development of the US based vaccine industry and the need for international cooperation. While Roche has stepped up worldwide capacity for the antiviral Tamiflu, including through local manufacturing partnership in India and China, vaccine capacity remains a very small percentage of the expected need.

Industry investments focus on cell culture manufacturing and new technologies addressing antigenic drifts and faster availability of the right vaccine.

According to Dr Teper, "Public-private partnerships and global cooperation, as demonstrated during the SARS crisis, are essential to address the risk of a potential "Flunami" and its devastating health and economic consequences. Industry has a major role to play in preparing for a pandemic flu outbreak, but Government help is also needed to ensure the development of sufficient manufacturing capacity for the production of flu vaccine in a timely fashion and on a large enough scale and to cope with a pandemic flu crisis, no matter if or when this may occur."

BIONEST Partners, a specialist healthcare strategy consulting and financial advisory firm, has developed a unique expertise in infectious diseases and vaccines, working with both leading and emerging companies in the US and globally. Last year BIONEST Partners published a report on the transformation of the vaccine industry. This report is available on Bionest web site www.bionest.com

"Seasonal and pandemic flu vaccination program preparedness exemplifies how dynamic and forward-looking the vaccine manufacturing industry is. At BIONEST Partners, we pride ourselves in helping this industry to overcome its many challenges by continuing to work alongside its most experienced managers," said Claude Allary, Managing Partner.

Come and visit us at **Booth number 1215**, you will be able to meet with **Dr Daniel Teper** and the Bionest Partners team to discuss further this BIO Vaccine Super Session.

About Bionest Partners

Bionest Partners provides advisory and management services to help biotechnology, specialty pharmaceutical, large pharmaceutical companies, medical device companies and their shareholders maximize the value of their assets. The company, based in Paris with offices in New York and founded in 2003, has a broad customer base ranging from biotech start-ups to large and established companies. Bionest Partners has wide experience with more than 100 clients including Pfizer, sanofi-aventis, GSK, Novartis, Millennium, Idenix, ProStrakan, Stallergenes, Innate Pharma, Genfit, Jubilant, Axa Private Equity, Blackstone and Candover. The company offers a hands-on approach and its areas of expertise include management consulting (strategy, organization, marketing, due diligence, surrogate management), corporate finance (private placement, IPO support, out-licensing, in-licensing, mergers and acquisitions), entry into Europe (assessment, strategy, go-it-alone/partnering, management support). Bionest has a strong and growing team of consultants as well as a network of associate members whom it deploys to address specific client assignments.

For more information: www.bionest.com

Contacts

BIONEST PARTNERS : Alain J. GILBERT – Managing Partner Phone : +33 (0) 1 58 05 14 00 E-mail : alain@bionest.com	Northbank Communications : Dr. Robert Mayer - Account Executive Phone : +49 (0) 89 5239 8030 E-mail : r.mayer@northbankcommunications.com
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