



ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED

億勝生物科技有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

Press Release

Essex Signs AzaSite® Licensing and Distribution Agreement with InSite Vision

Hong Kong, 30 May 2008 — ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED (“Essex” or the “Group”; HK GEM Stock Code: 8151) announced that it has signed a licensing and distribution agreement with InSite Vision Incorporated (AMEX:ISV) for InSite's AzaSite® (azithromycin ophthalmic solution) 1% for the treatment of bacterial conjunctivitis (pink eye).

Under the terms of the agreement, InSite grants exclusive rights to Essex to commercialize AzaSite for ocular bacterial infection in the mainland of the People's Republic of China, as well as Macao and Hong Kong. Essex will also be responsible for securing regulatory approval of AzaSite in China. In exchange, Essex will pay InSite up-front fees and provide a sliding royalty percentage on sales of AzaSite upon approval by regulatory authorities. InSite Vision will be responsible for providing manufactured product.

"We are pleased to add Essex Bio-Technology to our international partner network. As a leading biopharmaceutical drug development company in China, Essex have been an important participant in building the growing ophthalmic market in China. We anticipate that Essex's 200 sales representatives will provide a robust capability for AzaSite to penetrate the \$80 million topical antibiotic market in China," said S. Kumar Chandrasekaran, InSite Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Dr. Patrick Ngiam, Chairman of Essex, said, "We are very pleased to be able to bring AzaSite to China as we believe it will offer a new and competitive antibiotic eye drop to the Chinese market thus benefiting patients and partners in the distribution value-chain."

* * *

About Essex Bio-Technology Limited

Essex Bio-Technology Limited (“Essex”) was listed on the Growth Enterprise Market (GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 27 June 2001, under stock code (8151).

Essex specializes in biopharmaceutical drug development based on recombinant DNA technology. It was principally engaged in the manufacture and sale of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment and healing of surface wounds and eye wounds and the research and development of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment of duodenal ulcers and nervous system damages and diseases, as well as other ophthalmic pharmaceutical projects.

In November 2005, Essex has expanded into another bio-technology related industry to further strengthen on the Group’s core business. The Group has strategically acquired a 51% equity stake in 煙台開發區寶源生物實業有限公司 (Baoyuan Bio-Agri Technology (Yantai) Ltd.) (“Yantai Baoyuan”). Yantai Baoyuan was incorporated in Shandong, the PRC on 5 January 2004 and commenced its business in June 2004. It is principally engaged in the research, development and production of organic and chemical formulated agricultural fertilisers, in solid and liquid forms, for the agriculture industry in the PRC.

About AzaSite

AzaSite contains the drug azithromycin, a broad-spectrum antibiotic formulated with InSite's proprietary drug delivery technology (DuraSite®) as eye drops. This is the first time azithromycin has been formulated successfully for use in the eye. AzaSite offers a reduced dosing frequency as compared to currently available eye drops in the United States for the treatment of bacterial conjunctivitis and has a favorable safety and efficacy profile.

AzaSite was approved in the United States for bacterial conjunctivitis (pink eye) treatment by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in April 2007, and was commercially launched in the United States by Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in August 2007. Inspire, a biopharmaceutical company based in Durham, North Carolina, is the exclusive licensee of AzaSite in the United States and Canada. InSite also has licensing agreements with Shin Poong for Korea, Bioceutica for Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay, and Biem for Turkey, and is seeking other international partners for commercialization and distribution of AzaSite

About InSite Vision

InSite Vision develops novel topical anti-infective products, including AzaSite. InSite is pursuing the expansion of its portfolio of anti-infective ophthalmic products to include ISV-502 in Phase 3 pivotal trials as a product candidate directed at treating eye and eye lid infections and inflammation, currently an unmet need. In addition, InSite is evaluating the use of its product platform for ear infections with the product candidate, AzaSite OticT in preclinical development. The company is also developing AzaSite Xtra, a product designed to assist in penetrating international markets. Additional information is available about the company at: <http://www.insitevision.com>.

For more information, please contact:

Essex Bio-Technology Limited

Email : essex@essexbio.com
Tel : (852) 2587-7838
Fax : (852) 2587-7363

InSite Vision

Joyce Strand
Tel : (510) 747.1220