



ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED
億勝生物科技有限公司

Press Release

**RECORD PROFIT OF HK\$11.2 MILLION AND TURNOVER
INCREASED 26.7%**

**ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED RECORDED
STERLING RESULTS IN 1ST HALF 2005**

Hong Kong, 12 August 2005 - - ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED (“Essex” or the “Group” - Stock Code: 8151) today announced an unaudited profit attributable to shareholders of approximately HK\$11.2 million for the six months ended 30 June 2005, a significant increase, as compared to the approximately HK\$5.3 million of the same period of last year.

Turnover from sales of category I flagship biopharmaceutical products 貝復濟(Beifuji) and 貝復舒(Beifushu) increased by 38.8% to approximately HK\$19.7 million. The increase is mainly attributable to the effectiveness of the Group’s market development and marketing strategies implemented over the last two years and sound efficacy of the products.

As a result, overall gross profit for the period ended 30 June 2005 increased to approximately HK\$17.3 million as compared to approximately HK\$13.5 million of the same period of last year.

Distribution and selling expenses increased to approximately HK\$10.8 million for the period ended 30 June 2005 when compared to approximately HK\$8.1 million in the corresponding previous period. The increase was mainly attributable to the increase of sales volume in the flagship biopharmaceutical products during the period under review, increase of marketing and promotional activities and increase of sales commission.

Administration expenses slightly increased to approximately HK\$4.5 million for the period ended 30 June 2005 as compared to approximately HK\$4.4 million of the same period of last year.

The Group improved significantly its cash on hand to approximately HK\$37.2 million as compared to approximately HK\$23.4 million held on 31 December 2004.

Essex Chairman Patrick Ngiam said: “We are very pleased with the good results recorded. This reflects the Group has over the years built up a dependable foundation for future growth.”

“The Group will continue to pursue market expansion for its range of existing products and will particularly drive greater reach and coverage for the eye treatment business arena.”

About Essex Bio-Technology Limited:

Essex Bio-Technology Limited (“Essex”) is listed on the Growth Enterprise Market (GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 27 June 2001. Essex is the first genetic engineering drug developer, manufacturer and distributor listed on GEM. Essex specializes in biopharmaceutical drug development based on recombinant DNA technology and is principally engaged in the manufacture and sale of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment and healing of surface and organ wounds. Essex’s flagship products are Beifuji and Beifushu.

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Summary of key information:

	For the six months ended 30 June	
	2005	2004
	HK\$'m	HK\$'m
Turnover	19.7	15.6
Gross profit		
- in HK\$'m	17.3	13.5
- in %	87.9%	87%
Net Profit	11.2	5.3
Earnings per share		
- basic	HK2.02cents	HK0.96cent
- diluted	HK2.02cents	HK0.96cent
Dividend	Nil	Nil
Cash and bank balances	37.2	21.0
Bank borrowings	Nil	Nil

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