



Isis Pharmaceuticals' TIGER Biosensor System Receives R&D 100 Award

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CARLSBAD, Calif., July 11, 2005 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: ISIS) announced today that its Ibis division has received an R&D 100 Award for its TIGER biosensor system, a revolutionary system for the identification of infectious diseases. The R&D 100 Awards competition, sponsored by R&D Magazine, recognizes the 100 most technology significant products introduced into the marketplace over the past year. Entries are evaluated on their ability to save lives, change people's lives for the better, improve the standard of living for large numbers of people, and promote good health.

"Receiving the prestigious R&D 100 Award is a testament to the broad applicability and utility of our TIGER biosensor system. We are honored to be selected as one of the top 100 technology innovations," said Michael Treble, Isis' Vice President and President of Ibis. "The TIGER biosensor system is a rapid, cost-effective solution for identifying infectious organisms, including organisms that are newly-emerging, genetically altered or unculturable. We plan to deliver TIGER biosensor systems and related products to government partners this year and subsequently sell TIGER systems to the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries for a wide variety of applications. The fully automated high-throughput TIGER system has the potential to save lives and decrease healthcare costs."

The 2005 R&D 100 Award winners will be honored at the 43rd annual formal Awards Banquet on October 20, 2005 in the Grand Ballroom of Chicago's Navy Pier.

ABOUT TIGER AND THE IBIS DIVISION

The Ibis division has developed the TIGER (Triangulation Identification for Genetic Evaluation of Risks) biosensor system, a revolutionary system to identify infectious organisms. Ibis plans to commercialize the TIGER biosensor system to government customers for use in biowarfare defense, epidemiological surveillance and forensics; and to non-government customers for use in pharmaceutical process control, hospital-associated infection control, and infectious disease diagnostics. Additional information about Isis' Ibis division can be found at www.ibistiger.com or accessed from Isis' homepage at www.isispharm.com.

The Ibis division has been funded by U.S. government agencies including the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

ABOUT ISIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is exploiting its expertise in RNA to discover and develop novel drugs for its product pipeline and for its partners. The Company has successfully commercialized the world's first antisense drug and has 11 antisense drugs in development to treat metabolic, cardiovascular and inflammatory diseases, and cancer. In its Ibis division, Isis is developing and commercializing the TIGER biosensor system, a revolutionary system to identify infectious organisms. As an innovator in RNA-based drug discovery and development, Isis is the owner or exclusive licensee of more than 1,500 issued patents worldwide. Additional information about Isis is available at www.isispharm.com.

This press release includes forward-looking statements regarding the development and commercialization of Isis Pharmaceuticals' TIGER biosensor system and related products, as well as the Company's plans and goals for the program. Any statement describing our goals, expectations, intentions or beliefs is a forward-looking statement and should be considered an at-risk statement, including those statements that are described as Isis' goals. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, particularly those inherent in developing and commercializing systems to identify infectious organisms that are effective and commercially attractive, and in the endeavor of building a business around such products. Our forward-looking statements also involve assumptions that, if they never materialize or prove correct, could cause our results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Although our forward-looking statements reflect the good faith judgment of our management, these statements are based only on facts and factors currently known by us. As a result, you are cautioned not to rely on these forward-looking statements. These and other risks concerning Isis' programs are described in additional detail in Isis' annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004, and its quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2005, which are on file with the SEC. Copies of these and other documents are available from the Company.

SOURCE Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

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