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Nonlinear Launch New Biomarker Solution: Progenesis PG600

(Munich, Germany) Nonlinear Dynamics Ltd, a leading provider of bioinformatics solutions, today announced the release of its new biomarker discovery software, 'Progenesis PG600'. Developed in collaboration with PerkinElmer, Inc. (NYSE: PKI), PG600 was officially launched today at the 4th HUPO Congress in Munich, Germany.

The release follows Nonlinear's announcement in April 2005 that it was to enter the biomarker discovery market. As part of an assisted development program with PerkinElmer, PG600 is designed to process and compare mass spectrometry samples from different sample classes and treatments allowing fast identification of potential protein biomarkers.

The Progenesis PG600 incorporates a range of adaptable analysis features to import, analyse and identify individual and multiple markers from trace samples. Analysis of trace data is performed using sophisticated alignment and peak detection algorithms. Spectra can be visualised using a variety of different graphical formats, including stacking and spectral overlay, as well as simulated gel maps. Visual analysis comparing mass spec sample groups enable rapid discovery of disparate features for later identification. There are a number of hierarchical analysis methods including neighbour joining and UPGMA clustering to help identify groups of samples within the dataset. Statistical of validation including p-value and t-tests can then be calculated and the traces ranked according to statistical significance for convenient viewing.

A customised interface designed for PerkinElmer allows the direct uploading of raw data from the proTOF 2000 orthogonal MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer, part of the BioXPRESSION Biomarker discovery and screening Platform, into Progenesis PG600 software. The software can also operate independently of hardware used, enabling users to import mass spec trace data from a wide range of sources and/or hardware apparatus.

Mary Lopez, Business Leader for Analytical Proteomics at PerkinElmer said, "MALDI TOF mass spectrometry has become the analytical method of choice for biomarker discovery experiments as researchers can analyse complex biological mixtures very quickly. MALDI *orthogonal*-TOF mass spectrometry, with enhanced performance characteristics, is ideally suited for biomarker screening.

"The inclusion of Nonlinear's PG600 with PerkinElmer's existing TOF workflow marks a vital evolution in the application of trace data in biomarker discovery. For the first time, scientists can generate a complete yet quantifiable picture of the biological context of marker candidates. This will drive enhanced understanding of the biomarkers link to disease or drug mechanism."

Dr. Samuel Neill, Business Development Analyst for Nonlinear Dynamics concluded, "The release of the PG600 software marks the first development in Nonlinear's extended collaboration with PerkinElmer. In operating an assisted development model, the PerkinElmer team supplied additional insight into the challenges facing biomarker research programs on a daily basis. The result is that Progenesis PG600 is not only immensely powerful, but also highly intuitive and adaptable to any source of trace data samples. Progenesis PG600 is a crucial addition to Nonlinear's growing technology portfolio."

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About Nonlinear Dynamics Ltd

Established in 1989, Nonlinear Dynamics is a leading worldwide provider of bioinformatics solutions to the life science industry. The Company's innovative product portfolio comprises high-quality analysis and data mining tools for 1D and 2D electrophoresis gels, mass spectrometry data and microarrays, the core technologies of genomics and proteomics. Nonlinear sells and supports its products through its UK headquarters, its USA office, and its global network of partners and OEM resellers.

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