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## COMPANIES SELECTED FOR SOUTHEASTERN BIO INVESTOR FORUM

**Charlottesville, VA, August 17, 2006** – Southeast BIO (SEBIO) announced today it has selected 30 companies to participate in its Southeastern BIO Investor Forum, an event that brings together life sciences-based entrepreneurs and the venture capital community.

The SEBIO Investor Forum, now in its eighth year, will be held November 8-10, 2006, at the InterContinental Buckhead Hotel in Atlanta, Ga. The gathering is the Southeast's premier life sciences venture capital conference.

"This is an outstanding group of selected companies that will be of interest to the many potential investors already registered for our conference," said Stephen Snowdy, co-chairman of the SEBIO Investor Forum selection committee and an investor with MB Venture Partners of Memphis, Tenn.

Snowdy added, "The conference will be a terrific setting for emerging companies to meet and share insights with potential investors."

"Presenting at SEBIO 2005 in conjunction with an aggressive presentation campaign kept AxoGen in the forefront of those making investment decisions," said Jamie Grooms, CEO and president of AxoGen, a Florida-based company that raised almost \$8 million after presenting at SEBIO 2005 in Charleston, S.C.

Anne Wein, SEBIO's executive director, noted, "We received a lot of applications this year for companies desiring to participate in the conference and making the final choices was very difficult."

SEBIO is a non-profit, public/private partnership formed in 1999 to promote the growth of the life sciences economy in the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida and Georgia. The group seeks to build and maintain a strong coalition of state, industrial, technological, educational and entrepreneurial organizations with a vested interest in the growth of biotech companies.

The annual conference, designed to stimulate venture investment, offers an "early-stage" event focused on best practices for newly emerging companies and a "presenting companies" event which showcases a second group of young companies that have already completed one "round" of institutional financing.

Early-stage participants will introduce their companies to specially selected advisory teams which will then choose four of the best to participate in the "Early-Stage Shootout" in front of the full conference audience.

SEBIO presenting companies will make a 10-minute presentation to an audience of venture capitalists and angel investors on the second full day of the Forum.

The two and a half day event will also explore research, market, and financing trends with nationally recognized leaders from the investment and biosciences industries. Participants will include biotechnology executives, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, investment bankers, and other industry professionals.

**Selected Presenting Companies are:**

Adlyfe Inc. (Rockville, MD)  
AGTC (Alachua, FL)  
Aldagen, Inc. (Durham, NC)  
Altor Bioscience Corporation (Miramar, FL)  
Argos Therapeutics, Inc. (Durham, NC)  
Bioplex Therapeutics (Pittsboro, NC)  
DARA BioSciences, Inc. (Raleigh, NC)  
DiaKine Therapeutics (Charlottesville, VA)  
Nanotherapeutics, Inc. (Alachua, FL)  
NeoVista, Inc. (Atlanta, GA)  
NephroGenex (Cary, NC)  
Phase Bioscience, Inc. (Durham, NC)  
Regado Biosciences (Durham, NC)  
RFS Pharma, LLC (Tucker, GA)  
Serenex, Inc. (Durham, NC)

**Selected Early-Stage Companies are:**

3Ti (Atlanta, GA)  
Abeome Corporation (Athens, GA)  
Addrenex Pharmaceuticals (Morrisville, NC)  
AerovectRx Corporation (Atlanta, GA)  
AudioFusion Inc. (Winston-Salem, NC)  
BioDtech, Inc. (Nashville, TN)  
Celtaxsys, Inc. (Atlanta, GA)  
InterveXion Therapeutics, LLC (Little Rock, AR)  
IntraTherm LLC (Little Rock, AR)  
MedShape Solutions (Atlanta, GA)  
NanoVici, Inc. (Atlanta, GA)  
OcuCure Therapeutics (Roanoke, VA)  
Precision BioSciences, Inc. (Durham, NC)  
Precision Human BioLaboratories, Inc. (Cary, NC)  
ViewRay, Inc. (Gainesville, FL)

The Southeastern BIO Investor Forum is an annual event of Southeast BIO, a regional nonprofit organization that fosters the growth of the life sciences industries in the Southeastern United States. The Forum was first held in 1999; SEBIO presenters have raised more than \$2 billion in venture capital funding and IPO proceeds since the inaugural conference.

**About Southeast BIO**

Southeast BIO (SEBIO) is a regional nonprofit organization that fosters the growth of the life sciences industry in the Southeastern U.S. through efforts that promote entrepreneurship and bring together companies, investors, universities, and support organizations active in the development of the industry. Today, the Southeast is recognized as one of the fastest growing life sciences regions in the U.S. and home to more than 220 life sciences companies. A public/private partnership formed in 1999, SEBIO is committed to conducting activities that create regional leverage and facilitate the common interests and

goals of constituents in the life sciences industry. The geographic footprint of SEBIO presently includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. For more information on SEBIO, go to [www.sebio.org](http://www.sebio.org).

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