



NewCap Partners Forms Strategic Alliance With BioInfoStrategies

November 4, 2002 - Los Angeles, CA - NewCap Partners Inc., a Los Angeles based investment banking firm, announced today that it has entered into a strategic alliance with BioInfoStrategies LLC to focus on companies in the life sciences industry. BioInfoStrategies provides strategic consulting services to life science companies focused on drug discovery, molecular diagnostics, bioinformatics, and bioinstrumentation/reagents. With the alliance, NewCap Partners and BioInfoStrategies are combining strategic consulting skills and investment banking skills to provide clients with a unique combination of services.

"Our combined skills will allow our clients to harness our diverse skills into a single capability that will facilitate the rapid execution of strategic merger and acquisition transactions coupled with the financing requirements that accompany them" according to Carol Cherkis, Ph.D, President of BioInfoStrategies. NewCap Partners and BioInfoStrategies believe that there will be an increasing focus on merger and acquisition transactions in the foreseeable future due to the lack of financing in the public and private equity capital markets for life sciences companies, and that the combination of the skills of the two organizations are a great match for clients. "Life sciences is one of the industries on which we are focused and our relationship with BioInfoStrategies allows us to couple our finance and investment banking skills with the industry knowledge and strategic knowledge of BioInfoStrategies. Dr. Cherkis has a distinguished career in the life sciences sector, and we are very pleased to have the opportunity to work with her." said Thomas W. Turney, Managing Principal of NewCap Partners.

About NewCap Partners, Inc.

NewCap Partners, Inc., founded in 1987, is a private investment banking firm located in Los Angeles, California, (USA) with offices in Orange County and Silicon Valley. NewCap Partners is a "broker-dealer" registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD). NewCap Partners provides specialized strategic merger, acquisition and divestiture services to buyers and sellers. NewCap Partners also privately places debt and equity securities for its clients to finance expansion, acquisitions, buyouts, recapitalizations and reorganizations. NewCap Partners also specializes in business transactions in the Greater China Region. NewCap Partners is staffed by a team of senior, experienced and professional investment bankers. For additional information on NewCap Partners visit our website at www.newcap.com.

About BioInfoStrategies LLC

Founded by Carol Cherkis, Ph.D, in 1996, BioInfoStrategies specializes in gathering and analyzing market and technical information to provide customized support to clients in the fields of genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics, biosensors, molecular diagnostics, and

microfluidics. BioInfoStrategies' services include strategic consulting with emphasis on validating business models and assumptions, competitive analysis and tracking, pricing strategies, and marketing and sales strategies. For additional information on BioInfoStrategies visit the website at www.bioinfostrategies.com.

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