

## PRESS RELEASE

**Porsolt & Metris sign an agreement to co-market services utilising an innovative automated high throughput preclinical behavioral platform for the comprehensive screening of novel medicines.**

**Paris, France and Hoofddorp, The Netherlands, 05<sup>th</sup> November 2009:** Porsolt and Partners Pharmacology (Porsolt) and Metris have announced that they have entered into a global co-marketing agreement to promote preclinical screening services using Laboras®, a non-invasive technology for automatic and comprehensive *in vivo* behavioral characterization of drug candidates.

Under this alliance, Porsolt will offer CRO services utilising the innovative *in vivo* screening platform to its clients. The Laboras system enables the measurement of multiple behavioral pharmacodynamic endpoints in a single experiment utilising a high throughput non-invasive system.

Dr. Martine Lemaire, Senior Director - Commercial & Business Development of Porsolt said, “We are thrilled by the synergy between Porsolt’s long-established and recognized expertise in behavioral pharmacology and the high-quality, proven utility of the Laboras® innovative technology system. This partnership has formed in response to the needs expressed by Porsolt’s clients for increased information on drug-like molecules earlier in the drug discovery process. It fits obviously with our strategy to constantly deliver superior quality scientific solutions tailored to our customer’s need.”

Dr. Ronald Bulthuis, CEO of Metris added, “The combined expertise of Porsolt and Metris has led to a new service that will offer the customer early screening possibilities of new drug candidates which have a much higher quality and efficiency than traditional methods. The innovative technology of Laboras is generally recognized and widely used within the Pharmaceutical Industry and this partnership will further help to bring the Laboras technology closer to our customers. The Laboras functionality will help to reduce experimental lead time, improve consistency of results, reduce the number of animals and will ultimately reduce overall cost of the experiment. Metris is committed to continuously develop new and innovative methods and solutions that will support the customer in finding and evaluating new drugs. The partnership with Porsolt will further enhance our possibilities to achieve this goal”.

### **About Porsolt & Partners Pharmacology**

Porsolt is a long established preclinical CRO, having started operations in 1984 under the name ITEM-Labo. Porsolt has obtained an international reputation for its expertise in physio-pathological models, customized procedures and tailored solutions for discovering treatments of psychiatric and neurological disorders, acute and chronic pain, cardiac and vascular diseases, and metabolic and eating disorders. Porsolt also offers services for safety evaluation of treatments from screening to regulatory studies before first-in-man administration in full compliance with GLP (ICH S7), including full assessment of drug abuse and dependence liability and arrhythmogenic risk.

Porsolt is located in France with facilities in Paris and Laval. For additional information about the organisation, please visit [www.porsolt.com](http://www.porsolt.com).

#### **About Metris B.V.**

Metris was originally founded in 1994 and registered as Metris System Engineering V.O.F. In May 1999, new shareholders joined the company and the legal personality of the company was changed, resulting in its current name: Metris B.V. The development activities were intensified and several innovative products in the field of automated animal behavior recording and analysis were developed since then. Today Metris is generally seen as one of the trendsetters and market leaders in the field of animal behavior research equipment.

Metris is already for several years the only provider of independently validated research equipment that determines the behavior of small laboratory animals non-invasively and without any human observation.

Our on-going innovations and the use of state of the art technologies and materials guarantee that our products provide unique functionality and high reliability. By working closely together with our customers the products also have a customer driven design and have significantly increased the efficiency of the research work done by our customers. Our products LABORAS and SONOTRACK are the direct result of this approach. Both systems resulted in increased efficiency compared to existing systems or methods.

Metris is located in The Netherlands and has facilities in Hoofddorp. For more information, visit [www.metris.nl](http://www.metris.nl).

#### **Contacts:**

Dr. Martine LEMAIRE  
Senior Director - Commercial & Business Development  
Porsolt & Partners Pharmacology  
Tel: +33 1 46 10 99 90  
Email: [contact@porsolt.com](mailto:contact@porsolt.com)

Dr. Ronald BULTHUIS  
Chief Executive Officer  
Metris B.V.  
Tel: + 31 23 562 3400  
Email: [info@metris.nl](mailto:info@metris.nl)