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## Ikonisys Named 2008 Company to Watch by the Connecticut Technology Council Company Awarded the Cantor Colburn Award for Most New Patents by Connecticut Technology Council's Innovation Pipeline Accelerator for Outstanding Growth and Accomplishment

Last update: 7:00 a.m. EDT Oct. 6, 2008



NEW HAVEN, Conn., Oct 06, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ikonisys, a leading provider of next-generation, cell-based diagnostic solutions, today announced that it has been named a 2008 company to watch by the

Connecticut Technology Council, after being selected as the Cantor Colburn award winner for the most new patents. This award is part of the second annual Innovation Pipeline Accelerator awards. Ikonisys received the honor at the recent Innovation Pipeline 2008 Companies to Watch Awards event held at the Dolce Hotel in Norwalk, Conn.

Selected amongst 500 nominations, Ikonisys was awarded the honor for filing 78 patents surrounding its breakthrough CellOptics(R) platform and enabling technology, the Ikoniscope(R). Leveraging the CellOptics platform and Ikoniscope enabling technology, a high-throughput, automated, digital microscope, Ikonisys has developed several safe, non-invasive and accurate rare-cell based tests that aim to improve and ultimately, replace several of today's invasive and frequently inaccurate tests. Combined, the breakthrough technology platform facilitates high throughput microscopy in an entirely digital environment enabling "one-in-a-million" cell detection, literally finding the few cells out of many millions that matter. This type of rare-cell detection provides doctors and patients with early access to critical information about their disease - an important factor in developing a personalized treatment plan.

The Innovation Pipeline Accelerator Awards is one of the first initiatives designed to recognize emerging technology companies that have significant potential for future success. Throughout the year, volunteers associated with the Connecticut Technology Council select technology companies poised for rapid growth, and through the Innovation Pipeline Accelerator program, support each company with funding sources, service providers, potential employees and public agencies managers.

"Given the number of strong, innovative companies considered for this award, we are honored to receive this recognition by the Connecticut Technology Council," said Dr. Petros Tspouras, Ikonisys CEO and chairman. "The new patents we've developed aim to further advance early, accurate screening methods for disease detection. This award is a testament to the importance and value of the work we are doing to develop safe, non-invasive and accurate rare-cell based tests that improve upon several of today's options."

Through its breakthrough CellOptics platform, Ikonisys is developing a stream of proprietary and non-proprietary tests based on the detection of rare cells in a practical, efficient and economical manner. At the center of the platform is the Ikoniscope, a robotic, high-throughput, image acquisition and display microscopy system, that is used for rare-cell detection and analysis in an entirely digital environment, helping lab technicians to detect the one cell out of millions that matters. In addition to simply presenting cell images to the lab technician, the platform analyzes the cells, offering an interpretation of the progression, while simultaneously allowing the pathologist to concur or override the analysis. This intelligent technology is ultimately laying the groundwork for a "virtual digital assistant" to the pathologist.

About Ikonisys

Ikonisys is changing the practice of diagnostic medicine through its unique CellOptics platform -- an innovative combination of intelligent imaging,

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microscopy, biology and informatics -- that enables Ikonisys to deliver diagnostic test solutions that are automated, innovative and integrated. By providing "walk away" automation solutions, Ikonisys enables reference labs, hospitals, research institutions and practice groups to both greatly expand their test volume capacity and standardize their diagnostic procedures. This will further enhance their ability to economically deliver accurate, fast and personalized results for early cancer diagnosis and monitoring, and genetic disorder screening to physicians and researchers.

In addition to automating existing FISH-based tests, the CellOptics platform enables Ikonisys to launch a stream of next-generation diagnostic tests that are based on the detection of rare cells in a practical, efficient and economical manner. These "signature" tests will include proprietary test specific reagents. The integration capabilities of the CellOptics platform provides for both the transfer of patient test data into a laboratory's information systems -- enabling the creation of more comprehensive patient medical records -- as well as the potential to utilize these novel tests as companion diagnostics, which provides a path to fully realize the promise of personalized medicine.

In 2006, Ikonisys obtained FDA clearance for fastFISH(R) amnio, an imaging application for the Ikoniscope(R) that provides automated identification of numerical aberrations of chromosomes associated with common birth defects. Additionally, in early 2007, the company received FDA clearance for oncoFISH bladder, an Ikoniscope application that helps in the initial diagnosis of bladder cancer.

About The Connecticut Technology Council

The Connecticut Technology Council is the State's industry association for the technology sector. The Mission of the Connecticut Technology Council is to improve economic growth and a high quality of life for Connecticut by promoting a culture of innovation of community leaders in business and government. The Goal of the Connecticut Technology Council is to build a statewide network of innovators and entrepreneurs to educate and influence elected officials and policy leaders about the critical importance of technology innovation and growth in Connecticut.

About the Innovation Pipeline Accelerator

The IPA is for all CT companies with: sales under \$10 million, an innovative product and a scaleable business model. Once accepted into the Innovation Accelerator Pipeline, all candidates are provided with: Access to an interactive website that enables them to request services, communicate with an entrepreneurial community and track their progress; a secure corporate intranet for their exclusive use; connections with mentors and advisors with the intent of improving and accelerating the growth and success of these companies; and listing in a searchable public database that will be accessible to anyone looking for products or services from CT based companies.

Companies may remain in the program as long as the program adds value to their business and the company continues down the path towards success. Some of the more advanced IPA companies will be selected to receive extra assistance in the FastTrack Program that provides more personalized services.

SOURCE: Ikonisys

Media Contact:  
 Racepoint Group  
 Jackie Hanley, 781-487-4625  
 jhanley@racepointgroup.com  
 or  
 Investor Relations Contact:  
 Ikonisys  
 Louise Mawhinney, 203-776-0791  
 corporate@ikonisys.com

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