

**NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date: 01.08.08****Image attached****-Copy Starts-*****New GeneDirectory Software******Provides Fast, Accurate Band Comparisons in Large Scale Genomics Projects***

**Cambridge, UK:** Syngene, a world-leading manufacturer of image analysis solutions, is pleased to announce GeneDirectory V2.01, its upgraded automated gel data storage and analysis software is now available. The package has novel features to enhance ease of use in genetic fingerprinting studies, cluster analysis, VNTR analysis, as well as genotyping and RFLPs.

GeneDirectory now comes with bootstrapping, a random statistical re-sampling technique. Using bootstrapping, GeneDirectory automatically selects bands and re-samples them many times so matching patterns can be assessed for the validity of their matching. The resultant bootstrapping values are displayed alongside the dendrograms. Bootstrapping makes results more accurate by discerning between genuine matches and those where a match is coincidental.

The new software, which has a simple to use Windows like folder structure also allows users to view long tracks and permits unlimited elements in a composite track to be used for band matching. The tracks can be analysed by cluster analysis, profile matching and band matching via a pattern of bands or an entire profile. The resulting data, aligned dendrograms and aligned track images can also be automatically exported to Excel, making it quicker and easier for researchers to determine, as well as securely store the information they need.

Laura Sullivan, Syngene's Divisional Manager commented: "We are very excited about the innovations we have added to the new GeneDirectory because they have made an excellent product even better. We are convinced any molecular biologist testing this package will discover that for rapidly processing large-scale human, plant or animal genomic studies, Syngene's GeneDirectory V2.01 offers the most advanced performance of any software in its class."

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**Note to Editors*****About Syngene***

Syngene is a world-leading supplier of integrated imaging solutions for analysis and documentation of gel-based information. Syngene's systems are used by more than 10,000 research organisations and over 50,000 individual scientists world-wide and include many of the world's top pharmaceutical companies and major research institutes.

Syngene, founded in 1997, is a division of the Synoptics Group based in Cambridge, UK. The Group's other divisions, Syncroscopy and Synbiosis, specialise in digital imaging solutions for microscopy and microbial applications respectively. Synoptics currently employs 40 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.