BEACON HOUSE,
NUFFIELD ROAD
CAMBRIDGE
CB4 1TF

TEL: 01223 727123
FAX: 01223 727101
E-MAIL: sales@syngene.com
www.syngene.com

News Release

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Image Attached

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Major US University uses GeneGnome for Six Years
In Important Academic Study to Elucidate Mechanisms of Cell Division

Cambridge, UK: Syngene, a world-leading manufacturer of image analysis solutions, is delighted to announce its GeneGnome dedicated chemiluminescent imaging system, has been used since 2003 to help successfully study the role of proteins in cell division.

Scientists in the Department of Biological Sciences at St. John's University in New York are using a GeneGnome chemiluminescent imaging system to image Western blots of human phospholipase C proteins labeled with ECL to determine their role in regulation of cell division processes. The researchers are hoping that this academic study will elucidate some of the mechanisms of mitosis and could lead to a better understanding of why cells die through apoptosis or why they exhibit mutations that may lead to them becoming cancerous.

Professor Ales Vancura at St. John's University said:" Researchers in two labs in our department have been using the GeneGnome regularly for six years to image Western blots. The system is helping us determine how changes in phospholipase C affect the regulation of proteins associated with chromatin structure, kinetochore activity, and chromosome segregation during mitosis."

Professor Vancura added: "Everyone working with this imager has said it is simple to set up, as well as being highly sensitive and gives them the results they are looking for. We have only had to make one change to the system in all the time we've had the GeneGnome so when we need to purchase another, we'll definitely buy from Syngene."

Paula Maia, Vice President of Sales, Syngene US concluded: "We are delighted to hear that scientists at St John's University have been working successfully with the GeneGnome for so long. Their continued confidence in the system shows cost-conscious academic laboratories that if they want a dedicated chemi-luminescence imaging system, which is both reliable and generates great results, a GeneGnome is still the one to have."

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For Further Information Contact:
Jayne Arthur, Syngene, Beacon House, Nuffield Road, Cambridge, CB4 1TF, UK.
Tel: +44(0) 1223-727123 Fax +44 (0) 1223-727101
Email: jayne.arthur@syngene.com Web site: www.syngene.com

Professor Ales Vancura, Department of Biological Sciences, St. John's University,
8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, New York 11439, USA.
Tel: + 718 990-6287
Fax: +718) 990-5958
e-mail: vancuraa@stjohns.edu Web site: www.stjohns.edu

Editor Contact:
Dr Sue Pearson, Director, International Science Writer, PO Box 170, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 3GD, UK.
Tel/Fax: +44(0) 1462-635327 Email: sue6.pearson@ntlworld.com

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 Cambridge based Synoptics Group. The Group's other divisions, Syncroscopy and Synbiosis, specialise in digital imaging solutions for microscopy and microbial applications respectively. Synoptics currently employs over 40 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.

About The Department of Biological Sciences

The Department of Biological Sciences at St John's University offers advanced training in cell and molecular biology. The department provides a broad-based background in biology with an emphasis on cell and molecular biology, and covers research in several areas including intracellular trafficking, signal transduction, cellular responses to stress, programmed cell death, genetics and biochemistry.