

# **Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc. and Nitto Denko Corporation Announce Successful Development of NittoPhase® HL High Loading Solid Support for Oligonucleotide Synthesis**

## **NittoPhase® HL Loaded up to 400umol/g delivers Market Leading Economies to Reduce Synthesis Costs and Increase Yields**

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Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc, the market leader in solid support for oligonucleotide synthesis, will be announcing the successful development of its next generation high loading polymeric solid support product NittoPhase®HL for oligonucleotide synthesis at the TIDES meeting commencing in Las Vegas on May 17th. In thorough testing NittoPhase®HL loaded at 400umol/g and 240umol/g has shown consistently strong yields and excellent full length purity when utilized for DNA and RNA synthesis respectively. The new product is scheduled to be commercially launched in the first half of 2010 at the completion of scale-up test production.

Through utilization of the unparalleled polymer synthesis and R&D capabilities of Nitto Denko Corporation, and the worldwide marketing and customer support operations of Kinovate Life Sciences, this new product promises to deliver potentially significantly improved technical and economic outcomes for all segments of the oligonucleotide industry.

Solid support is the base structure used in the synthesis of oligonucleotides, including diagnostic probes and primers, antisense including RNAi, microRNA, DNA-based and aptamer drugs and represents a substantial portion of the cost to manufacture these oligonucleotides. The market leading loading capacity of NittoPhase®HL results in significantly improved yields per gram of material with superior purity, allowing users to realize significant cost savings with no compromise in quality.

"NittoPhase®HL is simply the finest solid support product developed to date. No technology has been able to offer these kinds of high loadings, yields and full length purities. We are extremely excited at the results we have seen in testing to date and expect

to be able to deliver this product at a price that will make a significant impact on per micromole costs for our customers. Following on from the extraordinary success of our original NittoPhase® Solid Support product, which has fast become well established as the market leading solid support in the therapeutic oligonucleotide industry, NittoPhase®HL will cement Kinovate's position as the market leader in this field," stated Dr. Kenji Matsumoto, President of Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc.

#### ABOUT SOLID SUPPORT

Manufacture of oligonucleotide drugs involves use of solid support matrix upon which chemical reactions occur in a cyclic manner. These reactions are performed on a fully automated synthesizer. At the end of synthesis, drugs are purified by various chromatographic techniques and characterized extensively to check their authenticity and purity. Thus solid support plays a crucial role in the manufacture of oligonucleotide drugs. It is increasingly believed that the yield of full-length oligonucleotide product is greatly influenced by the proper design of a polymeric support which undergoes roughly eighty chemical reactions in about eight hours for a 20-mer oligonucleotide.

#### ABOUT KINOVATE LIFE SCIENCES

Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc. is a subsidiary of Nitto Denko Corporation (Osaka, Japan). Whose mission is the commercialization and marketing of life science-related technologies developed by Nitto Denko Corporation and its Oceanside, CA based R&D subsidiary company Nitto Denko Technical Corporation. In April 2005, Kinovate launched NittoPhase® Solid Support for Oligonucleotide Synthesis, which has gone on to become the market leading product in its class.

#### ABOUT NITTO DENKO CORPORATION

Incorporated in 1918 and having its head office in Osaka, Japan, Nitto Denko Corporation designs, manufactures and sells a wide range of products including adhesive tapes, electronic components, and medical equipments, based on its core technologies of high polymer synthesis. The company holds approximately 60% share of the global market for polarizing films. Polarizing film is a core material used in liquid crystal display television production. Nitto Denko's applied products are widely used in medical instruments, automobiles and electronics, accounting for 70% of its total sales. The company remains focused on attaining "Global Niche Top" status in many of its core products. The company has 10 divisions and consolidated group sales in fiscal year 2007 amounted to US\$7.45 billion. Additional information about Nitto Denko Corporation is available at [www.nitto.com](http://www.nitto.com).

#### KINOVATE LIFE SCIENCES, INC. FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT

This press release contains forward looking statements concerning research & development of polymer materials related to the life sciences area developed and commercialized by Kinovate Life Sciences Inc. and its affiliates, including solid support for oligonucleotide synthesis. Any and all statements concerning Kinovate's claims, intentions, beliefs, etc

should be considered forward looking statements and as such at-risk. Statements made above, including those concerning testing results should be considered observed values, not guaranteed values, and actual results may differ materially from those mentioned above. Readers of this press release are cautioned to not rely solely on the forward-looking statements contained above.

Kinovate Life Sciences, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nitto Denko Corporation.

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