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Icosystem Announces Key Project in Drug Discovery

(December 28, 2003, Cambridge, MA) -- In a move to make drug discovery more efficient, Icosystem – the leader at applying research from Complexity Science to real world problems – today announced its collaboration with a major pharmaceutical company to evaluate the applicability of Icosystem’s Interactive Evolution Platforms and associated technologies to the challenges of pharmaceutical drug discovery.

Icosystem will be working with an unnamed major pharmaceutical company to develop a proof-of-concept platform that applies Icosystem’s proprietary technology to the Lead Optimization phase of a specific development project.

The platform will help shorten the pharmaceutical industry’s lengthy development stage and also reduce the risk of failure during clinical trials by enabling companies to identify their strongest drug candidate molecules during the latter stages of the industry’s Research & Development phase.

“The pharmaceutical industry faces many significant challenges relating to the overall productivity of its R&D operations,” said Paul Edwards, Icosystem President and CEO. “The latter stages of Drug Discovery – moving from Lead to Candidate – present a number of opportunities for improving a pharmaceutical company’s ability to identify additional viable candidates, thereby boosting their overall productivity.”

The terms of today’s agreement include possibilities for potential exclusivity, as well as deeper strategic involvement in the development of any technology. The identity of the participating pharmaceutical company and the specific development project may be released at a later date.

“We are delighted to have established this collaboration with a major pharmaceutical company which has one of the most impressive development pipeline in the industry,” said Edwards.

Based in Cambridge, MA, Icosystem uses the tools of complexity science and advanced computational techniques to provide a highly flexible and cost-effective technology platform for exploring business issues and discovering or designing strategies that have significant potential impact. Icosystem's approach uses realistic models of complex business environments and evolutionary and distributed computational techniques to validate new business ventures or improve the performance of existing enterprises.

More information on Icosystem can be obtained by contacting info@icosystem.com or by calling 617-520-1000.