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Idaho Technology Inc. receives exclusive licensing for "Monitoring Amplification With FRET Probes" patent from the University of Utah

SALT LAKE CITY—January 17, 2007—Idaho Technology Inc. announced today that the company has received exclusive licensing rights to U.S. Patent No. 7,160,998, entitled "Monitoring Amplification With FRET Probes," issued to the University of Utah Research Foundation on January 9, 2007. The patent covers real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification kits using two deoxyribose nucleic acid (DNA) probes each labeled with an individual fluorescent molecule. Hybridization of these probes to a specific region of DNA produces a measurable signal by fluorescent resonance energy transfer (FRET). Idaho Technology employs this technology in commercial freeze-dried reagents used to detect pathogens and mutations on the LightCycler[®] and Ruggedized Advanced Pathogen Identification Device (R.A.P.I.D.[®]) systems.

Primary inventor Carl T. Wittwer, M.D. Ph.D., states "...the new patent further strengthens our position in rapid, real-time PCR and melting analysis, now to include kits with FRET probes." Diagnostic kits from other manufacturers using this technology include Factor V Leiden, Prothrombin polymorphisms, and the detection of pathogens associated with septicemia.

The FRET DNA probe system enables real-time detection similar to other DNA hybridization probe systems. The system also analyzes post-PCR melting curves to discriminate sequence variants.

About Idaho Technology, Inc.

Idaho Technology, Inc. is a privately held biotechnology company based in Salt Lake City, Utah. Founded in 1990, Idaho Technology licensed the rapid PCR technology from the University of Utah. Through funds from the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Defense, the company has created many commercial instruments and reagents for use in research and applied fields. Several of these products, including the LightCycler, have been sublicensed to Roche Diagnostics. Researchers, medical technicians, law enforcement officers, and soldiers in the field use the company's devices to detect or study disease-causing organisms. For further information, please visit www.idahotech.com.

Source: Idaho Technology Inc.