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News Release

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COMBISEP, INC. RECEIVES THE 2005 PRODUCT DIFFERENTIATION LEADERSHIP AWARD FROM FROST AND SULLIVAN

Frost & Sullivan presented the 2005 Award for Product Differentiation Leadership in the U.S. absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion/toxicology (ADME/Tox) market to CombiSep, Inc. for the cePRO 9600TM. The product enables a much higher throughput than traditional methods for measurement of the key physicochemical properties pK_a and logP. These properties have typically been measured early in the lead optimization process, but only for a limited number of compounds due to the low throughput of other technologies. Solubility, pK_a and logP are three interrelated properties, which are critical in determining bioavailability; thus, these analyses would ideally be run as early as possible.

“This award is significant because it is independent validation of the importance of our technology in the drug discovery market”, says Dennis Tallman, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, CombiSep, Inc.

The cePRO 9600TM addresses requirements which are emerging as a result of customers wanting to move pK_a and logP measurement earlier in the drug development process, specifically due to low compound availability, high throughput, and the ability to separate impurities. Since the technology is based on capillary electrophoresis, it is inherently performing a separation during the analysis; with the combination of ultraviolet absorbance detection, no labeling is required. The use of a 96-capillary array in the cePRO 9600TM enables a sample throughput of up to 24 compounds/h for pK_a and 46 compounds/h for log P measurements; only microgram quantities of sample are required.

"CombiSep's cePRO 9600 product clearly stands out for its ability to conduct up to 96 parallel separations, thereby providing CombiSep with a competitive advantage within the ADME/Tox market. Additional product enhancements, including signal enhancements and additional liquid handling capabilities which have recently earned two U.S. patents, will ensure that CombiSep

remains a production differentiation leader for several years to come.", states Monali Patel, Director, Healthcare Research (North America) at Frost and Sullivan.

The Frost & Sullivan Product Differentiation Leadership Award is presented each year to the company that has best demonstrated the ability to develop and/or advance products with more innovative capabilities than competing vendors and products. This Award recognizes the company's successful adoption of new or existing technology that has become a part of its well-designed product family. Such innovation is expected to significantly contribute to the industry in terms of product performance and degree/rate of technical change.

Before considering the recipient of this Award, the Frost and Sullivan analyst team tracks competing market participants' product differentiation strategies through ongoing research. This research consists of market participant interviews, end-user surveys, and extensive secondary research. The data compiled through this research is analyzed based upon specific measurement criteria for this Award. Participants are then ranked with respect to the measurement criteria. The Award recipient is ranked number one in the industry.

In addition to the methodology described above, there are specific criteria used by Frost and Sullivan in determining the final ranking of industry competitors. The recipient of this Award has excelled based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Degree of differentiation/ innovation compared to other market participants
- Positive impact on sales directly related to product differentiation
- Time-to-market improvement based upon product differentiation strategy
- Benefit to end users due to product differentiation
- Effect of product differentiation on ease of adaptability for new end-user applications
- Effect of product differentiation on market maturation

Headquartered in Ames, Iowa, CombiSep, Inc. develops, manufactures and sells multiplexed absorbance-based capillary electrophoresis instruments. CombiSep's cePRO 9600™ allows researchers to analyze up to 96 samples in parallel. Applications for biomolecules include: protein analysis, peptide mapping, DNA sizing, amino acid analysis and oligonucleotide purity determination. Other applications include high-throughput screening for small molecules. Kits are available for compound purity, pK_a/log P determinations, chiral analysis, peptide/protein analysis and oligonucleotide purity.