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New Labcyte Software Expands Echo™ Applications to Secondary Screening

Sunnyvale, CA, October 17, 2006 – Labcyte Inc. announces the release of two new software products, one to set up dose-response assays and the other to facilitate cherry-picking, that enhance the applications of its award-winning Echo technology. The Echo 550 and Echo 555 liquid handlers use acoustic energy to transfer nanoliter volumes of fluids, eliminating pipettes, pin tools and nozzles. This not only decreases laboratory expenditures dramatically but provides better results with higher precision and fewer false negatives than can be obtained with traditional fluid transfer techniques.

The new Dose-Response software makes it easy for users of Echo systems to set-up multi-point dose-response assays typical of those analyses used for IC_{50} and EC_{50} determinations. The use of Echo technology eliminates complicated serial dilutions and the negative impact they have on analyses. Bristol-Myers Squibb reported in a scientific poster that Echo technology used in IC_{50} analyses eliminated a large number of false negatives that could exclude some of their most promising drugs. The new Dose-Response software also provides features that cannot be easily achieved with traditional liquid handlers. For example, controls and standards can be scattered across an assay plate rather than restricted to particular columns or rows. This improves statistical analysis and reduces errors due to plate or reader anomalies.

The Cherry-Picking software makes it easy for users of the Echo 550 or Echo 555 to choose specific compounds from library source plates and to transfer them to assay plates in a variety of ways including interplate and intraplate replicates, variable volume transfers and pooled transfers.

Fereshteh Lesani, Labcyte marketing specialist said, “These new software packages were developed in close coordination with current users of Echo technology. With the software, researchers can choose to duplicate existing protocols or switch to new protocols that offer superior results via the elimination of serial or aqueous dilutions and through the improvement of assay plate layout. Based on the expressed needs of users,



we expect that these two new software products will increase drug discovery throughput while improving the quality of the results.”

Labcyte Inc., headquartered in Sunnyvale, California, provides plastic laboratory supplies, as well as the new Echo 555 liquid handler and the award-winning Echo 550 liquid handler, which are used in seven of the 10 top pharmaceutical companies as well as at leading academic and research institutions and contract research organizations. The Labcyte acoustic liquid handling technology has broad applications in the life science including dispensing equipment, assay systems, particle manufacturing, reagent multispotting for MALDI imaging applications, and living-cell transfer devices. Labcyte has 27 issued U.S. patents, 2 issued European patent and additional international filings. For more information, visit the company’s website, www.labcyte.com.

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