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**Labcyte Receives Patent for Producing
Mono-Dispersed and Multi-Layer Particles with Focused
Acoustics**

-Eliminates nozzle blockage and expands solution diversity-

Sunnyvale, CA, March 22, 2005 – Labcyte Inc. today received its 18th patent. U.S. Patent 6,869,551 discloses the use of focused acoustic energy to create particles with a very narrow distribution of size. Acoustic droplet ejection (ADE) of a solution containing dissolved materials produces these mono-dispersed particles. In addition, multi-layer particles form when droplets are ejected from layered immiscible fluids. ADE droplets solidify via solvent evaporation, exposure to an anti-solvent or via chemical processes such as polymerization. In contrast to other techniques, this method is compatible with volatile and near saturation solutions. It also eliminates the need for a nozzle and thus does not suffer from the clogging that makes other approaches unreliable.

Dr. Elaine J. Heron, Chief Executive Officer of Labcyte Inc., said, “Small particles of controllable size and composition provide predictability in a variety of applications. Uniformity in particle size allows materials to behave and function consistently, an attribute that is especially advantageous for the pharmaceutical industry, where the particle size of a therapeutic agent can affect the dissolution rate, bioavailability, and delivery to targeted portions of the lung.”

“This patent expands our intellectual property portfolio. We have extended the use of acoustics beyond liquid transfer as embodied in the Echo 550 compound reformatter and analytical measurement as seen in the Echo 380 auditor. We see acoustics fulfilling a number of unmet needs in the life sciences and pharmaceutical development arenas.”

The Labcyte® Echo™ 550 compound reformatter and the Echo 380 auditor use the technologies described in U.S. patents 6,666,541 and 6,802,593 as well as others in the company’s portfolio of 18 U.S. patents. The Echo 550 received an R&D 100 award for technical innovation and was the subject of scientific presentations on its use at pharmaceutical companies for high-throughput screening.

To view this patent, please visit

<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO2&Sect2=HITOFF&p=1&u=/netahtml/search->



[bool.html&r=1&f=G&l=50&co1=AND&d=ptxt&s1=6,869,551.WKU.&OS=PN/6,869,551&RS=PN/6,869,551](http://www.labcyte.com/aboutus/technology/2nL.mpg)

To see a video of acoustic droplet formation, please visit

<http://www.labcyte.com/aboutus/technology/2nL.mpg>

For more information on focused acoustic technology and the Echo 550 compound reformatter, please visit <http://www.labcyte.com/products/hardware/Echo550.html>

Labcyte Inc. is a privately held company that was formed by the merger of Picoliter Inc. and Labcyte, LLC in October 2003. The company, headquartered in Sunnyvale,

California, provides plastic laboratory supplies, as well as the Echo 550 compound dispenser. The Labcyte acoustic liquid handling technology has broad applications in the life science including dispensing equipment, assay systems, particle manufacturing, microarrays, and living cell transfer devices. Labcyte has 18 issued U.S. patents on acoustic technology and over 20 U.S. patent applications pending as well as additional international filings. For more information, visit the company's website,

www.labcyte.com.