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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BIO-TECH SYSTEMS ANNOUNCES A NEW CONTRAST MEDIA REPORT:

Report 260: THE U.S MARKET FOR MEDICAL IMAGING CONTRAST MEDIA

PRESENT AND FUTURE MARKETS FOR CONTRAST MEDIA, GROWTH IN MOLECULAR IMAGING, NEW PRODUCTS FOR MR AND CT ANGIOGRAPHY, DIAGNOSTIC BIOMARKERS AND DUAL THERAPEUTICS, NEW MARKETS FOR ULTRASOUND CONTRAST AGENTS , SALES AND MARKET FORECASTS TO 2013

Bio-Tech Systems Inc. announces the publication of a comprehensive report analyzing the markets for medical imaging contrast media. This covers all present and emerging markets in x-ray, MRI, CT and ultrasound contrast agents. X-ray markets include all applications for iodine agents in CT, angiography, fluoroscopy and nonvascular applications, where injectable or oral contrast is used. It also includes markets for barium for CT abdominal studies, G.I. fluoroscopy and speech pathology (barium swallow).

Markets for MR contrast agents are analyzed in detail, considering the impact of MR angiography and prospects for expanded applications in cardiac and vascular imaging. This includes new products in development and opportunities to utilize biomarkers that will identify diseased tissue and allow targeted therapies focused at the disease site.

Prospects for ultrasound contrast agents are also covered in depth, with growth forecasts based on approval of indications in cardiac perfusion imaging and eventual approval in radiology abdominal ultrasound. Additional prospects include new porous microbubble agents in development for both MR and ultrasound, with targeting capabilities that will allow imaging and delivery of therapeutic drugs as well as lysis of thrombus, blood clots and vulnerable plaque. This has increased confidence in the prospects for targeted imaging and created a stronger link with therapeutic products based on the same targeting principle. It has also stimulated research in imaging modalities to assess effectiveness of therapeutic agents and evaluate patient response to therapy.

The report has a strong focus on new products and technology and emerging market opportunities. Many of the new diagnostic agents offer opportunities to reduce or eliminate more invasive studies, while allowing the clinician to make sensitive and specific diagnoses.

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Market Analysis and Future Prospects for Contrast Media

U.S. sales of medical imaging contrast media reached $1.57 billion in 2006 and are expected to rise to $2.94 billion by 2013. Contrast media sales grew 6% in 2006; however, this annual growth rate is expected to increase to 10-11% per year beyond 2008 as new products are introduced. Iodine sales were $1,028 million in 2006 and have been growing recently at 5-6% per year because of increases in CT procedure volume, notwithstanding competitive pricing. This growth rate will increase as prices stabilize and applications grow in volume.

Sales of MR contrast media grew to $364 million in 2006, stimulated by increases in the proportion of enhanced studies. In 2006, 45% of MR studies were enhanced and this proportion should increase in the future. Although sales of MR contrast agents have been under competitive pressure, this market is stabilizing. Therefore, future sales growth will be more consistent with increases in procedure volume. Also, the introduction of new products to enhance MR angiography and permit targeted imaging will favorably affect procedure growth. As a result, contrast media sales should grow conservatively to about $500 million by 2013, with prospects for more rapid growth as new products are introduced.

Ultrasound contrast media sales have been growing at a compound rate of over 30% per year recently, with sales of $77.1 million in 2006. Both clinicians and sonographers are gaining more confidence in ultrasound contrast images and have implemented protocols that are simpler and more effective than previously. Although the approved indications are still limited, this will certainly be extended to perfusion imaging in the future. There are two new products on the threshold that have completed Phase 3 clinical trials and it is likely that at least one of these will be approved. Based on these prospects, ultrasound contrast media sales should increase to close to $700 million by 2013. It is also likely that some radiology indications will also be approved that will expand the market for these products. This technical influx will help all segments of the contrast media field with the effect that clinicians will have more options as alternatives to higher risk and more costly invasive procedures. This will stimulate more research and investment, adding strength and stability to newer venture companies as well as those more established in the field.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marvin Burns is president of Bio-Tech Systems, Inc., a firm that focuses on market research in the healthcare field. Burns specializes in market evaluation, where technological and scientific insight is important. The company has prepared numerous market research reports on contrast media, diagnostic and therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals, PET imaging, brachytherapy and interventional cardiology, which have been widely distributed. Burns has also served as a consultant to many international firms and venture groups in these fields. He has also been Technology Editor of Future Oncology, a publication widely circulated in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry reporting on new developments in cancer diagnosis and treatment. Burns is a graduate of MIT and Harvard Business School's advanced management program. He has prepared over 100 publications and has 15 patents and invention disclosures. Prior to forming Bio-Tech Systems, he was employed by firms in life sciences, bioinstrumentation and medical imaging fields in general management, marketing and product development. He was also a hospital administrator in charge of professional and technical services including medical imaging, clinical laboratories, therapy services, and materials management.

MEDICAL IMAGING CONTRAST MEDIA: REPORT CONTENTS

SECTION I: Market Status, Trends and Forecasts

Analysis of recent sales, competitive challenges, new products in the pipeline and forces affecting future growth. Also provides sales forecasts to 2013. Products include:

- Iodinated agents for CT, angiography, fluoroscopy and nonvascular studies. Doses sold, market trends and product sales by application.
- MRI contrast media sales for neuro, body imaging and MR angiography. Doses sold and growth trends. Prospects for new targeted agents for specialized applications.
- Ultrasound contrast agents for cardiology ventricular and perfusion studies. Recent sales growth and market prospects. Progress of clinical studies to expand product indications.

SECTION II: Analysis of Procedure Volume

- Historic and forecast growth of procedures in CT, MR, angiography and ultrasound.
- Distribution of procedures by application in neuro, abdominal, chest, spine and body.

SECTION III: Contrast Media Products and Technology

- Technical principles and functional characteristics of contrast agents.
- Prospects and opportunities in new technologies and probable market impact.

SECTION IV: Clinical Applications

- Discussion of clinical applications for different types of contrast agents.
- Analysis of product characteristics, performance benefits and trade-offs.

SECTION V: Current Research and Emerging Technologies

- Description of products in development within each major market segment including CT, MRI and ultrasound contrast agents.
- Description of new technologies for contrast agents, such as biomarkers for targeted imaging, microencapsulated agents for molecular imaging, enhanced radiology ultrasound, tumor seeking microbubbles and targeted nanoparticles for atherosclerosis.

SECTION V: Industry Analysis

- Analysis of current suppliers with individual product sales and market shares in 2006
- Market distribution, pricing strategies and new products in the pipeline.
- Discussion of marketing goals, product plans, corporate partnerships and new ventures.

SECTION VI: End-User Analysis

- Analysis of end-user groups and comparative requirements for medical imaging.
- Procedure mix and product utilization in hospitals and clinics.

SECTION VII: Company Profiles

- Background information on companies in the field and review of recent performance.
- Discussion of each company's market activities and management strategies

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PARTIAL LIST OF EXHIBITS─CONTRAST MEDIA MARKET

2006 MARKET SUMMARY BY PRODUCT GROUP, PROCEDURE VOLUME, AVERAGE PRICE PER DOSE AND MANUFACTURER'S SALES VOLUME

2006 DISTRIBUTION OF CONTRAST MEDIA SALES BY PRODUCT CATEGORY AND CLINICAL APPLICATION

20013 DISTRIBUTION OF CONTRAST MEDIA SALES BY PRODUCT CATEGORY AND CLINICAL APPLICATION

MARKET SUMMARY - HISTORIC AND FORECAST TOTAL SALES OF CONTRAST MEDIA BY PRODUCT CATEGORY FROM 2002-2013

IODINE CONTRAST MEDIA SALES SUMMARY BY APPLICATION, PROCEDURE VOLUMES, DOSES SOLD AND ANNUAL SALES FROM 2002-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST SALES OF INJECTABLE IODINE CONTRAST MEDIA FOR CT SCANS, DOSES SOLD AND ANNUAL SALES FROM 2002-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST SALES OF IODINE CONTRAST MEDIA FOR ANGIOGRAPHY AND NONVASCULAR FLUOROSCOPY FROM 2002-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST SALES OF BARIUM SULFATE FOR CT AND OTHER ORAL CONTRAST STUDIES, ANNUAL SALES FROM 2002-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST SALES OF MRI CONTRAST MEDIA, PROCEDURE VOLUMES, DOSES SOLD AND ANNUAL SALES FROM 2002-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST GROWTH OF CARDIOLOGY ULTRASOUND CONTRAST PROCEDURES BY PROCEDURE TYPE FROM 2002-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST SALES OF ULTRASOUND CONTRAST MEDIA, BY PRODUCT TYPE FROM 2002-2013

FORECAST GROWTH OF CT PROCEDURES AND PROPORTION OF ENHANCED SCANS BY PROCEDURE TYPE FROM 2005-2013

FORECAST GROWTH OF ANGIOGRAPHY AND ANGIOPLASTY PROCEDURE VOLUME BY PROCEDURE TYPE FROM 2005-2013

FORECAST GROWTH OF ORAL CONTRAST PROCEDURES BY PROCEDURE TYPE FROM 2005-2013

HISTORIC AND FORECAST NONVASCULAR CONTRAST PROCEDURES BY PROCEDURE TYPE FROM 2005-2013

FORECAST GROWTH OF MRI PROCEDURES AND PROPORTION OF ENHANCED STUDIES BY PROCEDURE TYPE FROM 2005-2013

FORECAST GROWTH OF CARDIOLOGY ULTRASOUND PROCEDURES AND PROPORTION OF ENHANCED STUDIES FROM 2005-2013

2006 CONTRAST MEDIA MARKET SUMMARY BY MANUFACTURER AND PRODUCT GROUP, SALES VOLUME AND MARKET SHARE

2006 SALES OF IODINE CONTRAST MEDIA BY MANUFACTURER, NONONIC AND IONIC DOSES SOLD, SALES VOLUME AND MARKET SHARE

PARTIAL LIST OF EXHIBITS─CONTRAST MEDIA MARKET

2006 SALES OF BARIUM SULFATE FOR ORAL CT AND G.I. FLUORO STUDIES, DOSES SOLD, SALES VOLUME AND MANUFACTURER'S MARKET SHARE

2006 SALES OF MRI CONTRAST MEDIA, DOSES SOLD, SALES VOLUME AND MANUFACTURER'S MARKET SHARE

2006 SALES OF ULTRASOUND CONTRAST MEDIA, DOSES SOLD, SALES VOLUME AND MANUFACTURER'S MARKET SHARE

COMPARATIVE ALLOCATION OF DIAGNOSTIC FACILITIES BY HOSPITAL BED SIZE IN 2006

COMPARATIVE UTILIZATION PARAMETERS FOR DIFFERENT IMAGING MODALITIES IN 2006

DISTRIBUTION OF SHORT-TERM HOSPITAL BEDS IN THE U.S. BY HOSPITAL BED SIZE IN 2006

RELATIVE PROCEDURE VOLUME FOR DIFFERENT IMAGING MODALITIES PERCENTAGE RELATIONSHIP BY HOSPITAL BED SIZE IN 2006

RELATIVE ACTIVITY INDEX AMONG DIFFERENT IMAGING MODALITIES, PROCEDURES PER BED PER YEAR BY HOSPITAL BED SIZE IN 2006

DISTRIBUTION OF ANGIOGRAPHY AND CATH LAB PROCEDURES BY HOSPITAL BED SIZE IN 2006

ALLOCATION OF DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY ROOMS AND PERSONNEL BY HOSPITAL BED SIZE

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COMPANY PROFILES INCLUDE

ACUSPHERE INC.

ADVANCED MAGNETICS, INC.

BERLEX LABORATORIES, INC

BRACCO DIAGNOSTICS INC.

BMS MEDICAL IMAGING

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CYTOGEN CORPORATION

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EZ-EM, INC.

GE HEALTHCARE

GUERBET, S.A.

IMARX THERAPEUTICS

IMCOR CORPORATION

KEREOS, INC.

LUMINETX CORPORATION

MALLINCKRODT, INC.

NST, LTD. (ISRAEL)

PHARMACYCLICS, INC.

POINT BIOMEDICAL

SCHERING AG

TK SIGNAL, LTD. (ISRAEL)

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ORDER FORM

Report No. 260 – US MARKET FOR MEDICAL IMAGING CONTRAST MEDIA

The report is priced at $9,500 plus $4,500 for a global license.

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