



## Press Release

### Cenix BioScience Signs Research Agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim for RNAi-Based Target Discovery.

**Dresden, Germany, February 2, 2009** – Cenix BioScience GmbH, a leading RNA interference (RNAi)-focused contract research organization, today announced that it has signed a research agreement to support Boehringer Ingelheim in its ongoing efforts to discover novel therapeutic drug targets.

Cenix will apply its well-established expertise in combining high throughput (HT) applications of RNAi-based gene silencing, the technology behind the 2006 Nobel Prize for Medicine, with high content phenotypic analyses in what will be a genome-scale screen using cultured human cells. Multi-parametric microscopy-based assays developed by Cenix using the Cellenger image analysis platform from Munich-based Definiens, will be used to complement proprietary assays developed at Boehringer Ingelheim, in order to generate detailed insights into the cellular functions and loss-of-function phenotypes of analyzed genes.

“We have long been looking forward to this opportunity to combine our own capabilities with those of our expert colleagues at Boehringer Ingelheim,” said Dr. Christophe Echeverri, CEO/CSO of Cenix. “We expect that the excellent complementarities between the two teams will deliver a particularly productive and cost-effective driver for these programs.”

Such RNAi datasets, now widely favored throughout the industry, offer a highly predictive and cost-effective basis for mining the human genome to discover and prioritize targets for therapeutic drug development in a wide range of disease fields.

#### About Cenix BioScience GmbH

Now in its 10th year, Cenix BioScience has been the first and leading contract research organization specialized in combining advanced applications of RNA interference (RNAi) gene silencing with high content phenotypic analyses to enhance and accelerate the discovery and pre-clinical development of novel therapeutics. Cenix has built-up a solid track record, successfully advancing therapeutic programs for numerous major industry and academic partners by addressing the specific needs of each through fully-customized, cutting-edge research offerings covering a wide range of disease fields. The well-established core capabilities in high throughput RNAi and multi-parametric microscopy assays have yielded optimized protocols in a broad and ever-growing collection of cultured cell models, and are now complemented by microRNA-focused experimentation and *in vivo* applications of synthetic siRNAs. As such, Cenix is a mature and fully-proven industrial research partner, applying the highest of scientific best practices and offering a breadth and depth of expertise second to none world wide. Please contact Cenix or visit the company's web site [www.cenix-bioscience.com](http://www.cenix-bioscience.com) for more information.

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