



NEWS RELEASE

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PlantForm Corporation joins The Research Park community

SARNIA—PlantForm Corporation, a Canadian biotech startup company focused on producing ultra-low-cost therapeutic antibody drugs, has opened an office on the Sarnia-Lambton Campus of the University of Western Ontario Research and Development Park.

“PlantForm is pleased to be part of this innovative research community. This location allows us to build strategic partnerships in Sarnia and London as we target key southwestern Ontario angel investor groups and venture capital companies to raise funds for Phase 1 clinical trials of our first cancer drug product,” says David Cayea, PlantForm’s Director of International Relations and Business Development.

PlantForm was established in 2008 to commercialize a proprietary, plant-based manufacturing platform for producing antibody treatments for cancer and other critical illnesses. The company’s first product will be a subsequent-entry biologic (SEB) version of the breast cancer drug Herceptin (trastuzumab).

Lab studies have established that PlantForm’s SEB trastuzumab, produced in tobacco plants, is equivalent to Herceptin in terms of purity and activity. Animal studies are now under way with clinical trials to follow.

“Antibody drugs are revolutionizing medicine but the problem with so many brand-name drugs today is that they can be extremely expensive,” says Don Stewart, PlantForm President and CEO. “Patients, health-care providers and insurers all want access to more affordable alternatives.”

Herceptin earned \$5.7 billion in 2010 for the Roche Group. Stewart estimates the market potential for SEB trastuzumab is \$2 billion a year by 2016 and \$4 billion to \$5 billion a year by 2019 as Herceptin patents expire around the world.

PlantForm’s pipeline also includes SEB versions of other drugs for cancer and inflammatory diseases that, together with Herceptin, are forecast to have annual global sales in excess of \$40 billion by 2013.

An expert panel of Canadian and U.S. venture capitalists selected PlantForm as a leading investment opportunity and winner in the life sciences category of the Canada’s Top 10™ Competition in 2010 and 2008-09.

The company licenses its technology from the University of Guelph, where it was developed by Dr. J. Christopher Hall, the Canada Research Chair in Recombinant Antibody Technology and PlantForm's Chief Scientific Officer. All relevant intellectual property is protected by patent filings. Projected revenue is more than \$50 million by 2016.

-30-

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