



Biotech Daily

Friday July 15, 2011

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

*** ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: USCOM UP 5%; OPTISCAN DOWN 16%**

*** MELBOURNE TO HOST 2014 CARDIOLOGY CONGRESS**

*** USCOM APPOINTS JOE TRYGAR HEAD OF SALES**

*** 10% OF CBIO OPPOSE 'PERFORMANCE RIGHTS' ISSUE**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 0.38 percent on Friday July 15, 2011 with the S&P ASX 200 down 17.2 points to 4473.5 points.

Eight of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 17 fell, seven traded unchanged and eight were untraded.

Uscom was the best, up one cent or 4.55 percent to 23 cents with 11,100 shares traded, followed by Resmed up 11 cents or 3.7 percent to \$3.08 with 9.15 million shares traded.

Prana, Psivida and Universal Biosensors climbed more than two percent; with Clinuvel, Nanosonics and Pharmaxis up more than one percent.

Optiscan led the falls, down 1.2 cents or 15.6 percent to 6.5 cents with 1,086 shares traded, followed by Impedimed down 6.7 percent to 62.5 cents with 54,479 shares traded.

Circadian lost 5.2 percent; Anteo fell 4.8 percent; Bionomics, Phosphagenics and Prima were down more than three percent; Acrux, Alchemia and Phylogica shed two percent or more; with Cochlear, CSL, Living Cell, Mesoblast, QRX, Sirtex, Starpharma and Tissue Therapies down one percent or more.

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

Victoria's Minister for Tourism and Major Events Louise Asher says Melbourne will host the World Congress of Cardiology in 2014.

Ms Louise Asher said the four-day Congress would attract more than 9,000 cardiologists and other healthcare professionals, including cardiovascular researchers, nurses and representatives from pharmaceutical companies from all over the world.

"Given that a high number of Australians are at risk of developing cardiovascular disease, its detection, prevention and management is essential for the future of our country," Ms Asher said.

"Victoria's health, research and educational institutions are internationally renowned," Ms Asher said.

"In addition, Victoria is home to 138 biotech companies, 13 major medical research institutes, 10 teaching hospitals and nine high quality universities," Ms Asher said.

A spokeswoman for Ms Asher said the event would be organized by the Melbourne Convention and Visitors Bureau.

A Victorian Government media release quoted the Bureau's chief executive officer Sandra Chipchase saying the Congress "added to a string of health-related events, including the Western Pacific Congress on Chemotherapy and Infectious Diseases 2016 and the International Congress of Immunology 2011, held in Victoria that provide considerable economic benefits to the State".

"The WCC has never been held in Melbourne, which presents us with an excellent opportunity to showcase the city and regional Victoria," Ms Chipchase said. "We expect the congress to inject \$36 million into the Victorian economy."

The president of the Cardiac Society of Australian and New Zealand James Cameron said the Congress would play a key role in overcoming cardiovascular disease.

"It is estimated that 1.4 million Australians will experience a disability associated with the cardiovascular system, while 17 million people worldwide die each year of cardiovascular disease," Mr Cameron said.

"Therefore, the importance of harnessing our research and biotechnology capabilities cannot be understated," Mr Cameron said.

USCOM

Uscom has appointed Joe Trygar as head of sales, based in North America and responsible for sales revenues across its global distribution network.

Uscom said Mr Trygar had more than 30 years experience in the medical instrumentation and automation markets including research, engineering, strategic development and global distribution.

The company said that most recently, Mr Trygar was president and founder of Dossette, a medical equipment manufacturing, development, and sales consulting business.

Uscom said Mr Trygar was a successful entrepreneur who has founded and sold several businesses and a sales leader who has delivered dramatic successes for several Fortune 500 companies.

The company said Mr Trygar included "exponentially growing sales" in the medical device markets including the cardiac monitoring sector".

Uscom executive chairman Phil Kiely said Mr Trygar was "recognized for his ability ... to distill complex issues to fundamentals, create blueprints for growth and implement systems and initiatives to grow sales revenues, profitability, sustainability, competitive advantage and high close ratios".

Uscom was up one cent or 4.55 percent to 23 cents.

CBIO

Despite the withdrawal of four resolutions, 10 percent of CBio shareholders opposed all remaining resolutions on free 'performance rights' for CBio directors and executives.

In June the company said it would hold an extraordinary general meeting to issue 9.1 million free performance rights to executives and directors, exercisable, pending conditions, at no charge for seven years (BD: June 14, 2011).

Later in June, chairman Stephen Jones said he was concerned that two shareholders had requested copies of the shareholders register relating to the meeting (BD: Jun 29, 2011) and this week CBio withdrew four resolutions amounting to 6,000,000 performance rights, including 500,000 rights to company secretary Ben Graham, 2,000,000 rights to Mr Jones, 2,000,000 rights to chief executive officer Jason Yeates and 1,500,000 rights for director James Greig (BD: Jul 13, 2011).

CBio said that in five resolutions to issue performance rights to directors and executives Dr Goran Ando, Dr Peter Corr, Prof John Funder, Dr Terje Kalland and Dr Thomas Lönngren about 15.8 million proxy votes (26.0%) opposed the issue with about 45 million proxy votes (74.0%) in favor.

The opposing votes represent 9.98 percent of CBio's shares on issue. Shareholders controlling five percent of the share issue are able to requisition meetings.

The resolution to issue performance rights to Dr Michael Monsour was opposed by 16,393,690 proxy votes (31.55%) and passed with the support of 35,552,357 proxy votes (68.45%).

All resolutions put to the meeting were passed, but there was significant opposition to the ratification of the prior issue of 15,350,616 shares and 2,169,109 shares to Springtree Special Opportunities Fund; the prior issue of 51,282 shares to Sydney based research house Wise Owl for the provision of services; the ratification of a 100,000 share issue to a supplier associated with director Dr Michael Monsour; the issue of performance rights to employees; and increasing the pool of directors' remuneration to \$750,000.

CBio was up one cent or 1.5 percent to 69 cents.