

Biotech Daily

Thursday September 15, 2011

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * ASX, BIOTECH UP: GENERA UP 8%; HEARTWARE DOWN 6%
- * BIO-MELBOURNE HOSTS VICTORIA MINISTER GORDON RICH PHILLIPS
- * BIONICHE SALES UP, REVENUE DOWN, LOSS UP 865% TO \$15m
- * M&G GROUP TAKES 10% OF MESOBLAST
- * ROSS, GINA COPELAND TAKE 5% OF PHOSPHAGENICS
- * WINTON WILLESEE REPLACES BIOPROSPECT'S DR MICHAEL QUINLAN
- * BPH EGM APPROVES BUY-BACK, INCENTIVES; LOW TURN-OUT

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market climbed 1.65 percent on Thursday September 15, 2011 with the S&P ASX200 up 65.9 points to 4,071.7 points.

Thirteen of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, eight fell, 13 traded unchanged and six were untraded.

Genera was the best, up one cent or 7.7 percent to 14 cents with 164,143 shares traded.

Mesoblast climbed six percent; Phosphagenics and Phylogica were up more than three percent; Prima rose 2.6 percent; with Acrux, Alchemia, Bionomics, Biota, CSL, Patrys, Resmed and Reva up more than one percent.

Heartware led the falls, down 10 cents or 6.2 percent to \$1.52 with 12,980 shares traded.

Benitec and Compumedics fell more than four percent; Circadian, Nanosonics and QRX shed more than two percent; with Cochlear and Sirtex down more than one percent.

BIO-MELBOURNE NETWORK

Victoria's Minister for Technology, Gordon Rich-Phillips will outline his Government's support for biotechnology at a Bio-Melbourne Bio-Breakfast on October 4, 2011.

The Bio-Melbourne Network said that Mr Rich-Phillips would discuss the role of technology convergence in supporting the broader uptake of biotechnology across other industries, driving future growth and productivity.

The Network said Mr Rich-Phillips was the Minister for Technology, the Aviation Industry and Assistant Treasurer.

The October 4 Bio-Breakfast will be held at Cinema 1, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Corner Flinders Street and Swanston Streets, Melbourne, with registration from 7.20am.

For more information go to: http://www.biomelbourne.org/events/view/207.

BIONICHE

Bioniche says its net loss after tax for the 12 months to June 30, 2011 was up 864.5 percent to \$C15,336,000 (\$A15,125,000) on revenue down 21.5 percent to \$C36,044,000. Bioniche said sales, primarily of veterinary products, increased 1.4 percent to \$C27,366,000, research collaborations were up 72.9 percent to \$C3,146,000 but licencing revenue fell 65.9 percent from \$C16,203,000 for the year to June 30, 2010 to \$C5,532,000 for the year to June 30, 2011.

Bioniche said research and development costs were up 8.3 percent to \$C19,782,000. Bioniche said that diluted loss per share was up 750 percent to 0.17 Canadian cents. The company said it had cash and cash equivalents of \$C15,353,000 at June 30, 2011 up 38.7 percent compared to \$11,070,000 at June 30, 2010.

Bioniche was untraded at 70 cents.

MESOBLAST

M&G Investment Funds have increased their substantial holding in Mesoblast from 25,409,156 shares (9.06%) to 28,156,967 shares (10.04%).

Mesoblast was up 45 cents or six percent to \$8.00 with 1.7 million shares traded .

PHOSPHAGENICS

Ross and Gina Copeland and associates have become substantial shareholders in Phosphagenics with the acquisition of 45,175,335 shares or 5.48 percent of the company. The initial substantial shareholder notice said that Ross and Gina Copeland of Albany Road, Toorak, Victoria were associated with Publicity Press and Publicity Press Superannuation Fund.

The notice said that Mr and Ms Copeland and their companies held less than five percent of Phosphagenics at March 31, 2011 and detailed purchases by and transfers between the four entities, leading to a total acquisition of 5,345,244 shares or 0.64 percent of the company at prices between 10.5 and 15.5 cents a share and taking the holders above the 5.0 percent substantial holding level.

Phosphagenics was up half a cent or 3.45 percent to 15 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

BIOPROSPECT

Bioprospect says that Winton Willesee will replace chairman Dr Michael Quinlan as a director and chairman, effective from September 16, 2011.

Bioprospect said Dr Quinlan was appointed a director on May 29, 2003.

The company said Mr Willesee was an experienced director in the small capitalization sector of the ASX and had experience in company administration, corporate governance, company public listings, merger and acquisition transactions, reconstructions and corporate finance.

Mr Willesee was formerly a director of Incitive which was developing pineapple stemderived bromelain as a treatment for inflammation and auto-immune diseases and steered the company to a recapitalization, evolving into Hawker oil and Gas.

Mr Willesee was formerly Psivida's company secretary.

Bioprospect said Mr Willesee was the chairman of Cove Resources and Mining Group and a director of Base Resources, Coretrack, Newera Resources and Otis Energy.

Mr Willesee has a Master of Commerce, Post-Graduate Diploma in Business, a Graduate Diploma of Applied Corporate Governance, a Diploma in Education and a Bachelor of Business.

Bioprospect was unchanged at 0.7 cents.

BPH ENERGY

The few formal votes cast at the BPH extraordinary general meeting approved a \$1.35 million share buy back and employee incentive scheme.

Of BPH's 206,731,207 shares on offer, a total of 74,778,501 proxies were lodged but more than 68 million were excluded as they belonged to directors, employees and related parties.

The share buy back was supported by 5,298,075 proxy votes and opposed by 1,119,060 proxy votes.

The renewal of the employee incentive option plan was supported by 4,914,319 proxy votes and opposed by 656,017 proxy votes.

BPH retains biotechnology assets including 3.6 percent of Cortical Dynamics and a 20 percent interest Molecular Discovery Systems which has the rights to the HLS5 cancer tumor suppressor gene (BD: Jun 3, Jul 25, Aug 16, 2011).

BPH was unchanged at 3.1 cents.