

## **Survey data released at 14 th Annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference in New York City**

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb 15, 2012-- The 14th annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference wrapped up in New York City yesterday amidst renewed optimism among investors and signs that FDA approvals may be on the rise in 2012, according to BIO Industry Analysis survey data.

The event closed with a record number of one-on-one meetings, increased attendance and panel sessions on the latest investment and deal making trends. Hosted by the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), the event drew more than 1,200 industry leaders and hosted more than 1,300 one-on-one meetings.

"The BIO CEO & Investor Conference synthesized the overall mood within the industry of momentum and progress with recent approvals and increased M&A activity, and optimism for the year ahead," said Alan Eisenberg, executive vice president of Emerging Companies and Business Development at BIO.

In 2012 alone, four new drugs have been approved by the FDA: Bydureon for type 2 diabetes; Kalydeco for cystic fibrosis; Erivedge for basal cell carcinoma and Inlyta for renal cell carcinoma, with two more approved with companion diagnostics: Xalkori for NSCLC and Zelboraf for metastatic melanoma.

The study also indicates a majority of investors (56 still think now is a good time to invest, specifically with early stage companies and those focused on autoimmune disease and oncology. Furthermore, the data indicates investors expect a marked increase in biotech IPO's in 2012.

The conference hosted three plenary sessions addressing the economic and business issues facing the biotech industry. The event also hosted three Business Roundtables and four Therapeutic Workshops. The Business Roundtables focused on biotech drug launches, unique business models and licensing and deal-making while the Therapeutic Workshops discussed topics such as oncology, companion diagnostics and neurological and cardiovascular diseases. Additionally, BIO introduced Fireside Chats to this year's program which included a set of moderated, one-on-one conversations with pharma R&D chiefs and industry leaders, followed by an interactive question and answer session.

The BIO One-on-One Partnering system which provides the opportunity to arrange meetings between investors, companies and industry executives saw a record breaking 1,300 one-on-one meetings between 225 companies and featured 140 company presentations.

The BIO CEO & Investor Conference is the largest independent investor conference

focused solely on publicly-traded biotechnology companies.

Investors attend to network with top biotechnology executives, evaluate fresh investment opportunities, attend candid panel discussions and get an overview of the industry and key issues affecting investments.

Upcoming BIO Events BIO IP Counsels Committee Conference April 16-18, 2012 Austin, TX World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology & Bioprocessing April 29-May 2, 2012 Orlando, FL 2012 BIO International Convention June 18-21, 2012 Boston, MA BIO Business Forum June 18-21, 2012 Boston, MA About BIO BIO represents more than 1,100 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States and in more than 30 other nations. BIO members are involved in the research and development of innovative healthcare, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology products. BIO also produces the BIO International Convention, the world's largest gathering of the biotechnology industry, along with industry-leading investor and partnering meetings held around the world. BIO produces BIOTechNOW, a multiblog platform and monthly newsletter that aims to create an online biotech community where the the industry can connect to discuss the latest news. Subscribe to BIOTechNOW.

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