Labcyte Announces the Launch of Echo 525 Liquid Handler: The First-Ever Large-Volume Acoustic Liquid Handler

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan 14, 2013--Labcyte Inc., who is revolutionizing liquid handling with acoustic dispensing, today announced the latest addition to the Echo ® liquid handler product family at the annual Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening conference. This innovative product expands Labcyte's acoustic dispensing range by utilizing a larger droplet volume to enable more rapid liquid transfers in the microliter range. Acoustic dispensing is significantly enhancing personalized medicine programs, streamlining DNA/RNA diagnostics testing, optimizing drug discovery programs and accelerating life science research. The Echo 525 platform complements the current Labcyte product lines by enabling acoustic assay assembly for larger volume transfers.

Labcyte uses focused sound energy to dispense precisely-sized droplets from a source microplate well to a destination. The tipless, non-contact technology provides unmatched accuracy and precision and eliminates costs associated with pipette tips and waste disposal while conserving reagents and samples. The new Echo 525 liquid handler allows scientists to work across a wider range of assay volumes and continue to produce high-quality data by avoiding the problems associated with traditional pipetting systems. With a 25 nanoliter transfer increment, scientists can rapidly transfer volumes from hundreds of nanoliters up to 10-microliters with one instrument.

"The Echo liquid handler is a recognized gold standard for small molecule liquid handling, and low volume genomics and proteomics," says Mark Fischer-Colbrie, CEO of Labcyte. "The introduction of the Echo 525 will make acoustic liquid handling the first choice for scientists across a broader spectrum of life science applications. This expansion of our product line will accelerate the adoption of acoustic liquid handling for next-generation sequencing, gene expression, genotyping, proteomics, cell health and molecular diagnostics." Acoustic liquid handling dramatically simplifies experimental setup and lowers cost while improving data quality, with no risk of contamination. In addition to these benefits of acoustic transfer, all Echo instruments incorporate Dynamic Fluid Analysis™, a process that enables the transfer of a wide range of liquids automatically, without requiring operator calibration.

"We are very excited to be introducing the first rapid large-volume Echo platform," says Fischer-Colbrie. "This breakthrough extends the benefits of acoustic transfer to more scientific research and discovery. Not only can scientists now transfer microliter volumes for a wide range of fluids without contact and without pipette tips, they never have to be burdened with instrument calibration again." Labcyte customers have published papers in peer-reviewed journals and received patents

that clearly demonstrate discoveries and results that would have been impossible with traditional liquid-handling approaches—at a fraction of the cost. The Echo 525 liquid handler will enable further groundbreaking discoveries across a broader range of applications.

About Labcyte: Labcyte, a global biotechnology tools company headquartered in Sunnyvale, California, is revolutionizing liquid handling. Echo liquid handling systems use sound to precisely transfer liquids without contact, eliminating the use of pipettes. Labcyte instruments are used worldwide throughout the pharmaceutical industry, as well as by biotechnology firms, contract research organizations, and academic institutions. Our customers work across a wide spectrum of scientific research, including drug discovery, genomics, proteomics, diagnostics, personalized medicine, and imaging mass spectrometry. Labcyte has 62 global patents, along with additional filings. For more information, visit www.labcyte.com.

CONTACT: Labcyte Inc.

Pamela Lo Toll-free: 877-742-6548 Tel: 408-747-2000 x211 Fax: 408-747-2010 pamela.lo@labcyte.com www.labcyte.com KEYWORD: UNITED STATES EUROPE ASIA PACIFIC NORTH AMERICA CALIFORNIA FLORIDA INDUSTRY KEYWORD: TECHNOLOGY NANOTECHNOLOGY HEALTH BIOTECHNOLOGY MEDICAL DEVICES PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH SCIENCE SOURCE: Labcyte Inc. Copyright Business Wire 2013 PUB: 01/14/2013 09:57 AM/DISC: 01/14/2013 09:57 AM
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