



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation Acquires the OriGene TrueClone™ Collection for High-Throughput Drug Target Discovery**

Rockville, MD. March 9, 2004 – OriGene Technologies Inc. today announced the purchase of the TrueClone™ Collection of over 20,000 non-redundant full-length human cDNA clones by the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation (GNF) for use in high-throughput discovery efforts.

GNF develops and implements technologies designed to interrogate gene function at a whole genome level. Research efforts include the use of gene-encoding cDNAs in promoter-bearing vectors, and the assembly of the whole "ORFeome" for rapid utilization in protein expression and gene functionalization systems.

"GNF has acquired the OriGene TrueClone Collection and integrated its large number of otherwise inaccessible transcripts to enhance the coverage and usefulness of our GFACT system of high throughput biology discovery," commented John Hogenesch, PhD Program Head of Genomics at GNF.

OriGene's TrueClone Collection includes over 75% of the NM sequences in the NCBI RefSeq database and covers 65-80% of the predicted human cDNA repertoire. Each cDNA clone matches an annotated mRNA reference sequence from established public domains and is housed in non-proprietary expression vectors suitable for transfection and direct *in vivo* or *in vitro* expression. The comprehensive nature of the TrueClone Collection and the uniformity and expression-readiness of the cloning vector uniquely enables a system biology approach to high-throughput screening and functional studies.

"OriGene's mission is not only to build the most comprehensive collection of human full-length cDNAs, but also to make it a scientifically useful platform to enable systematic studies of human gene functions," said Karl Kovacs PhD, Vice President of Operations at OriGene

### **About OriGene Technologies**

OriGene Technologies, a molecular tool provider for system biology studies, utilizes high-throughput gene cloning and gene expression profiling to develop commercially available products for pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and academic research and discovery applications. OriGene's flagship product is the TrueClone™ Collection, a searchable gene bank of over 20,000 human full-length cDNA clones suitable for transfection and *in vivo* or direct *in vitro* expression. The TrueClone™ Collection cDNA clones are obtained directly from plasmid cDNA libraries avoiding the sequence errors introduced by other cloning methods. More information about OriGene Technologies and their products can be found at the company's web site at <http://www.origene.com>.

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