



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIKEN Acquires the OriGene TrueClone™ Collection for Structural Proteomics Program

Rockville, MD, March 30, 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 RIKEN Protein Research Group (PRG) for use in their structural proteomics and related protein functional analysis programs.

Riken's Protein Research Group mission is to establish a research system for genome and proteome-based structural biology (structural genomics and proteomics) to (i) investigate the three-dimensional structures and molecular functions of proteins, (ii) elucidate the molecular mechanisms of biological and medically important phenomena, (iii) develop technologies suitable for large-scale structural biology studies, and (iv) discover chemical compounds to control proteins which lead to drug design.

"The PRG has acquired this unique collection which provides access to large number of full-length clones we could not otherwise readily obtain. This relationship has accelerated our ability to provide service our partnership program (<http://www.rsgi.riken.go.jp>). We feel the consistency and quality of these clones will be of great use in the achievement of all the goals defined by this Japanese consortium," commented Shigeyuki Yokoyama, PhD, Project Director of the Protein Research Group at RIKEN

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, functional studies, and protein production.

"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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