

FOR DISTRIBUTION:

Grace Bio-labs Enters Agreement with Avantra Biosciences to Manufacture and Distribute PATH® slides for protein arrays.

Bend, Oregon, July 26, 2011- Grace Bio-Labs announces a joint agreement with Avantra™ Biosciences to manufacture the PATH® Protein Microarray Ultra-thin Non-porous Nitrocellulose Slides. The PATH® Slide, a proprietary design held by Avantra Biosciences, provides many benefits of nitrocellulose in a thin film that allows very low background fluorescence and excellent signal-to-noise ratio. Grace Bio-labs also manufactures and sells its proprietary Oncyte® porous Nitrocellulose Thin Film Slides, which provide the highest binding capacity for protein applications. "We are very pleased to partner with Avantra for their manufacturing needs," says Kirk Mansberger, CEO for Grace Bio-labs. "Our standards and capabilities for quality in manufacturing are perfectly aligned with Avantra's desire to consistently provide superior product to their customers."

Brendan McKernan, President of Avantra Biosciences said "Avantra is excited to partner with Grace Bio-Labs to distribute and manufacture our novel ultra-thin nitrocellulose PATH Protein Microarray slide. Grace Bio-Labs is certainly a leader in planar microarray technology and nitrocellulose coating processes. Our relationship with Grace Bio-Labs is a key component to our strategy for building Avantra and our long term vision."

Grace Bio-labs will sell the PATH® slides directly through their website (www.gracebio.com) and through a distribution agreement with Sigma Aldrich (www.sigmaldrich.com/gracebio), who also distributes other Grace Bio-labs Products.

About Grace Bio-labs:

Headquartered in Bend, Oregon, Grace Bio-Labs is a privately held company that develops and manufactures products to improve the speed and accuracy in protein and cell analysis research. The company has grown through innovation and partnership, developing and patenting its own technology as well as contributing key components in microfluidics for partner companies. Grace Bio-Labs manufactures the Oncyte® brand of thin film nitrocellulose slides, the substrate of choice for protein microarrays. The Grace Bio-labs line of seals and chambers create innovative microfluidics solutions for cell and protein analysis.

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About Avantra Biosciences:

Avantra Biosciences, a Courtagen Life Sciences Company, is a privately held diagnostics company that has pioneered next-generation technology for protein biomarker analysis. Avantra's Biomarker System consists of the Q400 Biomarker Workstation and the QPDx™ BioChip, which enables scientists and clinicians to perform multiplex biomarker analysis for research use only (RUO) at their lab bench or clinical trial site. www.AvantraBio.com

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