



Conformetrix expands medicinal chemistry team as programmes progress

Manchester, UK, October 2012 – Conformetrix Ltd, a leader in optimising drug discovery and design, has expanded its medicinal chemistry team with the appointment of an experienced pharmaceutical researcher. Dr Thorsten Nowak joins from AstraZeneca, where he worked for 16 years in drug design and project management.

Dr Nowak, who has a PhD from the University of Cambridge and a first class chemistry degree from the University of Heidelberg, has worked across a range of therapeutic areas and drug targets. He joins an expanding team of medicinal chemists and NMR scientists at Conformetrix as it makes progress in its proprietary programmes and the application of its technology to the process of drug discovery.

Conformetrix's NMR technology determines accurate three-dimensional structures - or conformations - of drug molecules in their bioactive states. This is achieved without the need for traditional structural information regarding the protein target of each drug and provides researchers with valuable information on how development-stage compounds are likely to interact with their targets. This new information should improve the efficiency and quality of the lead identification, lead optimisation and candidate selection stages of drug discovery programmes.

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Photo available on request

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About Conformetrix Ltd

Conformetrix is a Manchester, UK-based company focused on optimising drug discovery and design. It was founded in 2008 as a spin-out from the University of Manchester. The company uses its NMR-based technology to solve the dynamic 3D structures of a broad

range of biomolecules, including peptides, cofactors, oligonucleotides and carbohydrates. Since Conformetrix's NMR technology shows what shapes molecules adopt when they are active, it provides high-quality templates for drug discovery and design, and valuable information for drug candidate optimisation. In addition, the data is generated faster and more cheaply than by standard techniques such as X-ray crystallography. Conformetrix has solved structures for several large pharmaceutical companies, as well as developing proprietary drug programmes, and recently signed a collaboration with AstraZeneca. It has been funded since inception by specialist life science investor Aquarius Equity Partners. For more information, please go to www.conformetrix.com.