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BASi's Culex[®] L Large Animal Sampling System Combines an Ideal Model with an Ideal Tool for Improved Drug Development Research

WEST LAFAYETTE, IN – December 2, 2014 -- For nearly 15 years, the Culex[®] Automated Blood Sampling systems have allowed researchers to collect better data from non-stressed subjects. The cutting edge system saves time, saves money and saves lives by streamlining the drug discovery process and answering complicated questions at very early stages in research. Now, **Bioanalytical Systems, Inc. (NASDAQ:BASI)** has expanded that offering to a growing segment of drug discovery research utilizing swine as a research model.

The use of swine, and minipigs in particular, have become an increasingly common model for a variety of applications including Safety Pharmacology, Regulatory Toxicology, Infectious Disease and Trauma/Wound Healing studies, to name a few.

"There are several advantages to working with minipigs for evaluating new medicines and understanding human disease," says Nicole Navratil, Director of Scientific Communications and Support, Marshall BioResources, "The skin, gastrointestinal tract, cardiovascular system, and kidney of the minipig are very similar to humans in terms of both anatomy and function, and minipigs share several of the same metabolic enzymes as humans." Navratil added, "Minipigs are also susceptible to a variety of diet and lifestyle induced diseases including obesity, diabetes, atherosclerosis, and heart disease; therefore, minipigs have contributed to a greater understanding of these diseases and possible treatments."

By combining the strength of the swine model with the benefits of automated blood sampling, it has become easier than ever to answer difficult research questions in less time, all while using fewer research subjects. Jacqueline Lemke, President & CEO of BASi, added, "Automation of sampling and dosing reduces the amount of stress on the subject. This means that you have fewer study related issues such as stress hormone release, change in blood flow, change in intestinal absorption or other physiological changes which can affect drug development research."

BASi has been collaborating with researchers on combining the swine model with the automated blood sampling tool for several years. Associate Professor Gregory Knipp at Purdue University has seen the benefit of this confluence firsthand with the University having the capability on site. "Minipigs and pigs have been long recognized as sharing significant physiological overlap with humans, yet their utility in preclinical testing has been in part limited by the lack of enabling technologies for performing PK/PD studies. Utilization of the BASi Culex-L systems has given us the ability to explore a variety of issues in drug development, including issues related to drug induction and nonlinear PK, contrasting immediate and modified release formulations, and some of our most exciting work on assessing juvenile pigs as a surrogate for human pediatric formulations. In each case, our data coupled with other evidence suggested that the porcine models may actually be superior to other traditional preclinical rodent, canine and in some cases nonhuman primate animals."

In an exciting development, BASi has taken the technology which has been available to just a handful of academic researchers and has commercialized it. There are now two separate systems available for use in swine sampling, one for simple pharmacokinetic profiling and a more advanced system for asking more detailed pharmacodynamics questions. “We are proud to continue the automated blood sampling tradition of getting better data from fewer subjects,” says Candace Rohde-Johnson, Director of Instrumentation at BASi. Candace concluded, “These products are about improving lives- lives of the researchers, lives of the subjects, and ultimately the lives of the patients who receive treatments faster because of better drug development.”

About Bioanalytical Systems, Inc.

BASi is a pharmaceutical development company providing contract research services and monitoring instruments to the world's leading drug development companies and medical research organizations. The company focuses on developing innovative services and products that increase efficiency and reduce the cost of taking a new drug to market. Visit www.BASinc.com for more about BASi.