



For Immediate Release

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BENCHBIO PRIVATE LIMITED AND GENOSCREEN SAS TO COLLABORATE ON CROP GENOMICS

(February 14, 2011)- Bench Bio Private Limited, (BenchBio) a science driven plant biotechnology company developing crops with novel traits without genetic modification has announced that it has entered into an agreement with Genoscreen SAS, France. The companies will collaborate on crop genomics research using Genoscreen's next-generation sequencing technology. BenchBio will now offer R&D projects and contract research services in the area of genomics, transcriptomics, high throughput marker development, bioinformatics and genome sequencing in crops.

The collaboration combines the strong genomics research expertise of Genoscreen with the crop research experience and knowledge of BenchBio. "This is a unique opportunity to reinforce a long term knowledge in crop science, with the power of high competence in genomics" said André TORDEUX, Founder and CEO of Genoscreen SAS. "This collaboration will allow both companies to develop innovative technologies to provide solutions to the problems faced by seed companies" said Manash Chatterjee, Founder & Director of BenchBio. The focus will be on India, and more widely, enabling the development of significantly improved crops for farmers worldwide.

About BenchBio Private Limited

Based in Vapi (Gujarat, India), BenchBio is an Indian plant biotechnology company founded by Dr Manash CHATTERJEE, in 2007, who studied in Delhi, Cambridge, the John Innes Centre, and the Salk Institute. BenchBio works on functional genomics using an organisms own genome and creates novel traits in crops without genetic modification. For more information visit <http://www.benchbio.com>

About Genoscreen SAS

Based in Lille (France), Genoscreen is a French company founded by Dr André TORDEUX in 2001, is specialising in developing innovative R&D services in genomics to provide solutions to the life sciences sector. It provides the very latest technological services on human, animal, microorganism and plant genomes. Genoscreen conducts research activities in collaboration with academic laboratories on the genetics of Alzheimer's disease, microorganism typing and more recently on biodiversity. For more information visit <http://www.genoscreen.fr>