

Fluorescence Innovations and Montana Molecular Announce Strategic Alliance

Contacts:

Greg Gillispie, CEO Fluorescent Innovations
Montana Molecular

406-522.0613

gillispie@fluorescenceinnovations.com

amq@montanamolecular.com

Anne Marie Quinn, CEO

406-539-7399

Bozeman, Montana (February 6, 2010) Montana Molecular and Fluorescence Innovations Inc. have joined forces to co-develop cell-based, fluorescent assays for drug discovery. To maximize progress, the companies have located in adjacent lab space to work on an integrated system that couples fluorescent biosensors with sophisticated instrumentation for measuring fluorescence.

Fluorescence Innovations develops specialized lasers, detectors and microplate systems for drug discovery, protein production, purification and formulation that enable extremely fast and robust measurements of fluorescence lifetime. Montana Molecular's genetically-encoded biosensors change fluorescence in response to signaling in living cells. By merging these highly synergistic technologies, both companies expect to accelerate progress and to compete even more effectively for new funding.

According to Dr. Greg Gillispie, CEO of Fluorescence Innovations, "Our goal has always been to expand into cell-based assays and fluorescence microscopy. This alliance with Montana Molecular makes the most of our respective intellectual property, takes advantage of our pooled expertise and is already driving new directions of technology development."

"We recognize that fluorescent lifetime measurements are the key to robust live-cell assays. The opportunity to couple Montana Molecular's biosensors with Fluorescence Innovation's revolutionary instrumentation will mean new breakthroughs in

cell-based approaches to drug discovery. We will soon be able to measure cellular processes that have evaded us up until now, due to the inherent variability in traditional fluorescent detection technologies," added Anne Marie Quinn, CEO of Montana Molecular.

As a starting point for this effort, Montana Molecular hired a new scientific research associate, Paul Tewson, a 2006 graduate with honors from Montana State University's Cell Biology and Neuroscience Program who trained in Dr. Roger Bradley's lab at MSU Bozeman and later at Oregon Health Sciences University. Paul has been implementing the molecular and cell biology aspects of this collaboration and demonstrating how excellent education, and experience in an academic research laboratory translates into immediate progress toward achieving the goals of this alliance.