

Ocimum Biosolutions CEO Wins Astia and BioSpectrum Awards

Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India | Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA. December 16, 2008 - Ocimum Biosolutions, a leading integrated genomics company, today announced that Anuradha Acharya, CEO has been awarded the Astia Life Science Innovators Award and the BioSpectrum Entrepreneur of the Year award.

In its 4th year, the Astia Awards honor exceptional women innovators and recognize the investors and mentors who championed their success. Seven awards are presented each year within the three areas of innovators, investors and mentors.

The annual BioSpectrum Awards, which were started in 2003, recognize the exceptional contributions of the industry to the development of biotech sector in the country. The jury for the awards was headed by Varaprasad Reddy, Chairman, Shantha Biotech and comprised Prof. Vijay Chandru, Chairman, Strand Life Sciences; Dr Shrikumar Suryanarayan, Director General, Association of Biotechnology-Led Enterprises (ABLE), Bangalore; Tapan Ray, Director General, Organization of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), Mumbai; A Ramesh, General Partner, APIDC-Venture East, Hyderabad; Narayanan Suresh, Group Editor, BioSpectrum; and Abraham Mathew, Chief Editor, BioSpectrum.

Anu Acharya said "It is an honor to receive these recognitions from Astia and Biospectrum. I would like to thank our global customers, partners, employees, investors and well wishers who made this happen. We will continue to hone our capabilities to provide integrated range of quality genomic solutions to our global clientele."

About Anuradha Acharya

Ms. Acharya is the founder & CEO of Ocimum Biosolutions, a global genomics outsourcing partner for discovery, development and diagnostics. The company was founded in the year 2000 and has completed 3 international acquisitions, Gene Logic Genomics from Maryland, USA in the year 2007, Isogen Life Sciences from The Netherlands in 2006 and the GD business of MWG Biotech of Germany in 2005. Ocimum today has 2000 customers worldwide and operates under 3 main business units of BioIT, BioMolecules and Bioresearch. Ocimum recently raised capital from Kubera Cross Border Fund (KUBC) for an equity investment of up to US\$17 million (including the pro rata investment by affiliates of Kubera Partners, LLC, the Investment Manager of KUBC). Ocimum was previously financed by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private Equity arm of the World Bank.

Prior to founding Ocimum Biosolutions, Ms. Acharya has had rich experience in the Telecom, IT and entrepreneurship arenas. She worked for a startup in the telecommunications space called Mantiss Information and a consulting firm called SEI Information where she helped create a social networking site for entrepreneurs. Her experience is backed by education at premier institutions like the Indian Institute of Technology at Kharagpur, India (IIT) and University of Illinois where she has two Post Graduate degrees in Physics and MIS.

She is a regular in technology forums and round tables and one of the well known first generation entrepreneurs in the Indian life-sciences space. She was named by Red Herring Magazine to the list of "25 Tech Titans under 35" in 2006. Ocimum has received several awards including "Fastest Growing Life Sciences Company in India", Red Herring Asia 100, "IT Innovation Award" by NASSCOM and has been named to the Deloitte list of Fastest Growing companies in Asia, four years in a row.

About Ocimum Biosolutions

Ocimum Biosolutions is a leading integrated genomics company providing comprehensive genomic reference databases, life science lab information management solutions, GLP-compliant microarray services and essential research consumables. Over 2/3rd of the top 25 pharma companies, leading research institutes and emerging biotech companies worldwide have chosen us as their preferred outsourcing partner and utilize our expertise for understanding underlying mechanisms of diseases, discovery and prioritization of gene targets and biomarkers.

We are a preferred outsourcing partner for providing integrated biorepository and genomic services for several global pharmaceutical companies. Our global infrastructure, standardized procedures, capacity, expertise and highly skilled staff support drug development programs from pre-clinical target development and toxicogenomic assessment to clinical biomarker identification and patient stratification. In creating the world's largest commercial gene expression databases – BioExpress® and ToxExpress®, we have developed expertise and capabilities that are unparalleled in the genomic services industry. Our specialty LIMS solution, Biotracker™ caters to the growing needs of core labs in global companies and research centers involved in Life Science Research. We provide multiple GLP-compliant platforms for gene expression and SNP genotyping data generation. We also provide full biorepository and genomic services support for the Genetic Alliance, which is an umbrella organization representing ~600 genetic advocacy groups. Besides providing the physical infrastructure for storing thousands of biological samples, we provide services to assist sample accrual, IRB approvals, CRO training, sample collection, clinical data capture and management.

For more information, please visit www.ocimumbio.com | www.genelogic.com.

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