



Acucela Inc.
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Acucela to Participate at BioJapan World Business Forum

SEATTLE – September 6, 2006 — Acucela Inc. is pleased to announce that they will be participating in the annual BioJapan 2006 World Business Forum. The major theme of BioJapan 2006 is to expedite business communication. The conference provides opportunities for practical information exchange on various aspects, as well as business matching through exhibitions, seminars, workshops, and a Business Partnering program. As the subtitle, "World Business Forum" shows, BioJapan 2006 strives to be the best venue in Japan for biotechnology and pharmaceutical professionals to meet. Last year, BioJapan 2005 included almost 50 seminar sessions and 279 booth exhibits by 273 companies and governmental bodies from 17 countries/regions, attracting more than 20,000 visitors.

About Acucela

Acucela Inc. is a biotech company discovering new drug therapies for eye diseases. Neurodegenerative retinal diseases such as macular degeneration, Stargardt's disease, retinitis pigmentosa and glaucoma, significantly affect quality of life for over 50 million people worldwide, and there is a drastic lack of therapies available. Until now, ophthalmic drug discovery technologies have been very limited. Acucela uses proprietary OcuScreen™ disease-specific assays and technologies to identify and develop compounds that have safety and efficacy in treating these diseases. These technologies represent a tremendous breakthrough in ophthalmic drug discovery, and Acucela has used them to discover and develop pipeline compounds.

Acucela Forward-Looking Statement

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in the statements. The forward-looking statements include statements regarding product development. No forward-looking statement can be guaranteed, and actual results may differ materially from those projected. Acucela undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.



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