

**February 20, 2003**  
**EvoGenix Pty Limited**

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## **EvoGenix appoints antibody pioneer as adviser**

EvoGenix Pty Limited is delighted to report the appointment of Professor Hennie Hoogenboom as a key adviser to the company. Prof. Hoogenboom, who is currently based in the Netherlands, is a pioneer in the field of antibody engineering, having previously worked as one of the founding team leaders at Cambridge Antibody Technology in the UK. At CaT, his team created the first fully human antibody to reach Phase III clinical trials, Humira™ (also known as D2E7). This antibody has recently received regulatory approval and is soon to be marketed by Abbott for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

Dr Hoogenboom subsequently founded his own company, Target Quest NV, holding key patents in the field of antibody library generation and screening. When this company was acquired by US corporation Dyax, he became Senior Vice President for Discovery, worldwide, for that company. He has an extensive network in the field of protein engineering with a particular focus on antibodies and their applications in cancer treatment, as well as being an originator of key publications and 16 patents in the field. His appointment with EvoGenix commenced on December 1, 2002.



Dr Hoogenboom made his first major contribution to EvoGenix when he joined founder - advisers to EvoGenix, Australians Peter Hudson and Bob Irving, guest advisers and EvoGenix staff at a strategic review of company technology in December, 2002. The discussion was held in San Diego, following a major conference on Antibody Engineering at which EvoGenix presented data on its protein optimisation technology for the first time.

EvoGenix CEO, Dr Marilyn Sleigh, commented "Hennie's extensive experience in the field of antibody discovery and engineering is invaluable in helping us to focus on the strengths and opportunities for our EvoGene™ technology platform. This technology provides a way of "evolving" proteins in the laboratory to improve their properties, and antibodies are the most important targets for our approach. His contacts in the industry are already pointing us towards fruitful discussions with partners seeking access to our services."

EvoGenix is a company developing advanced technology, licensed from the CRC for Diagnostics, for the discovery and optimisation of proteins for use as drugs, diagnostics and for agricultural and industrial use. It was established in late 2001 with venture capital funding from Start-up Australia Ventures Pty Limited.

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