

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



14 February 2006

### **PharmAust Signs New Three-Year Multi-Million Dollar Global Peptide Deal**

- Signs new global peptide supply contract with US\$4 billion Invitrogen
- Three-year, exclusive worldwide agreement
- Access to US\$500M global research-grade peptide market

**PharmAust Limited (ASX: PAA), through its wholly owned subsidiary Mimotopes Pty Ltd, has today signed a new three-year contract with global biotechnology group Invitrogen Corporation (NASDAQ:IVGN) to exclusively supply research-grade peptides to Invitrogen's worldwide customer base.**

This new three-year contract sees Mimotopes become the sole and exclusive provider of research-grade peptides worldwide (excluding Japan) to Invitrogen, which conducts business in more than 70 countries around the world - placing its products in nearly every major laboratory in the world.

The deal gives Mimotopes unparalleled access to the US\$500m and rapidly growing research grade peptide market and provides a firm foundation for Mimotopes to achieve its goal of securing 5% of this global market.

PharmAust Managing Director Dr Paul D'Sylva said: "This contract will cement Mimotopes position as the pharmaceutical industry's Australian partner of choice for research grade peptides."

"Mimotopes is now able to expand its production capacity locally as well as enhance its production capabilities offshore by way of strategic out-sourcing arrangements."

With a market capitalisation of US\$4 billion, California-based Invitrogen provides essential life science technologies for disease research and drug discovery to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as research institutions.

#### **Further Comments:**

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#### **About Mimotopes**

Mimotopes is a 100% owned subsidiary of PharmAust Limited and is a recognised leader in the development of pre-clinical peptides for biological and pharmaceutical applications. Established in Melbourne, Australia in 1988, Mimotopes also has sales offices and distribution channels in the US, UK, Europe, Japan, India and China.

**About Invitrogen**

Founded in 1987, Invitrogen is headquartered in California and provides essential life science technologies for disease research, drug discovery, and commercial bioproduction. Invitrogen conducts business in more than 70 countries and is focused on offering products and services that support academic and government research institutions as well as pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Invitrogen operates in all major areas of biological discovery, including functional genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics, and cell biology.

**About PharmAust Limited**

PharmAust Limited is a vertically integrated pharmaceutical Group of companies involved in a range of activities from contract drug discovery and development to manufacturing, sales and marketing of healthcare & pharmaceutical products.

PharmAust wholly owns three main operating subsidiary companies:

**Epichem Pty Ltd**

Epichem provides synthetic and medicinal chemistry services, primarily on a contract basis, to the drug discovery and pharmaceutical industries both in Australia and overseas. With two state of the art laboratories in Perth and Melbourne, it has some of the best equipment available for the cost effective synthesis of analogue libraries, intermediates and standards. In addition to its revenue generating contract work, Epichem also undertakes some internal and collaborative research into drug discovery.

**PharmAust Manufacturing Pty Ltd**

PharmAust Manufacturing manufactures and markets non-therapeutic and therapeutic pharmaceutical products for the Australian market. The generic drug market is expected to grow to AU\$1.8b of the rapidly growing AU\$5.5b Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme drug market in Australia. PharmAust is positioning itself as a key player to capture a share of this market.

PharmAust Manufacturing currently has a suite of 95 products on the ARTG along with over 200 non-therapeutic products in areas such as personal care products, cosmetics and galenicals.