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**PharmaDesign releases PharmaGCHEM DPK™,  
a structure-based focused library targeting DAP kinases**

PharmaDesign Inc. (Tokyo, Japan, CEO: Toshio Furuya) announces the release of PharmaGCHEM™ DPK, a focused library targeting Death Associated Protein (DAP) kinases based on 3-D structures of the target proteins.

We have been conducting business of drug discovery researches, contract researches, and tool product sales in *in silico* drug discovery field utilizing our own proprietary bioinformatics and rational drug design technologies, and receiving great support by many pharmaceutical companies. We also developed focused libraries of low molecular compounds targeting chemokine receptors based on 3-D structures of the target proteins, and released PharmaGCHEM™ CKI and PharmaGCHEM™ CKII in June 2005 and March 2006 respectively. Both libraries have been purchased by several pharmaceutical companies.

Now we released the third focused library, which targets Death Associated Protein (DAP) kinases, a family of kinases known to be involved in regulation of apoptosis. DAP kinases are Serine/Threonine kinases that are expected to be good drug targets for apoptosis-related diseases including stroke and cardiac infarction.

About PharmaGCHEM™ DPK

- While most focused libraries of low molecular compound are ligand-based, PharmaGCHEM™'s compounds were selected through virtual screening against 3-D structure models of target protein molecules. Therefore, PharmaGCHEM™ is expected to have a wider variety of scaffolds than ligand-based libraries.
- The information of the ligand-binding site for the virtual screening was based on molecular evolution analysis of human protein kinases. Therefore, the compounds in PharmaGCHEM™ are expected to have selective activity for DAP kinases.

About PharmaDesign, Inc.

PharmaDesign, Inc. is a genome drug discovery company established in 1999, and its core technologies are structural bioinformatics and rational drug design. We conduct contract researches for clients including pharmaceutical companies as well as our own drug discovery researches by searching drug target molecules and identifying lead compounds. We also have

developed and sell a peptide library named PharmaGPEP™ v2S, which was designed with our proprietary bioinformatics technology, and is aimed to discover intrinsic ligands of orphan G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs).

For more information, please visit <http://www.pharmadesign.co.jp/> .

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