

CBSA NEWS IN REVIEW



A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF COLORADO'S MEDICAL DEVICE AND BIOPHARMA INDUSTRIES

7 March - 13 March

COMPANY SPOTLIGHT

- **BiOptix Diagnostics, Inc** (Boulder) recently announced the closing a \$3M Series A Round led by Boulder Ventures. The round also included several private investors. In conjunction with the funding event, Rick Whitcomb, who previously served as President and COO, will become President and CEO. The company also just announced its newest device, the BiOptix 207B system, during the PitCon conference from March 9-12.
- **F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG** (Boulder) has agreed to purchase the remaining shares of Genentech for \$95 per share, representing a total price of \$46.8 billion. Prior to this agreement, Roche, headquartered in Switzerland, owned about 56% of South San Francisco based Genentech.
- **Gilead Sciences Inc.** (Boulder) has agreed to buy CV Therapeutics Inc. for \$1.4 billion in cash representing a price of \$20 per share. CV Therapeutics, based in Palo Alto, California, develops small molecules for cardiovascular conditions.
- **ValveXchange, Inc** (Aurora) was awarded the 2009 North American Award for Technology Innovation of the Year by Frost & Sullivan for developing the innovative ValveXchange Heart Valve System. ValveXchange's two part system consists of a docking station that is sewn in place and a set of replaceable tissue-based leaflets. The company initiated testing in animals with its valve system in January.

PEOPLE

- **Mesa Laboratories** (Lakewood), a manufacturer of electronic instruments for industrial and health care applications, promoted Dr. John J. Sullivan to chief executive officer and board member. Sullivan has been with Mesa since 2004 and has served as President and COO since 2006.

SQUARE PEGS

- Recaps of last week's events are available at RockyRadar – including the "[Hong Kong: Turning China Into Opportunity](#)" seminar and [Innovation After Hours](#) celebrating Bioscience Larimer County.
- **Aerotek**, a global staffing provider, and its parent company Allegis Group, were recently recognized as the largest clinical/scientific staffing provider based on 2007 revenue, according to a report by Staffing Industry Analysts, Inc. (SIA). According to the SIA report, Aerotek alone generated approximately \$200 million in clinical/scientific revenue in 2007 — more than 13 percent of the entire clinical/scientific segment, estimated by SIA to be \$1.5 billion.
- The Bard Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado Denver is hosting its 8th annual Business Plan Competition. The competition is open to community members as well as those affiliated with the university and boasts over \$100,000 in prizes. The final competition is June 10th, but preparation events have begun. More information is available at the [website](#).
- A profile of **SierraNeurpharmaceuticals, Inc** (Aurora), a company that is attempting to deliver drugs directly to the brain for neurological conditions, is available [here](#).
- A profile of **BioAmps International, LLC** (Denver), a new company looking at antimicrobial peptide treatments for drug-resistant bacteria, is available [here](#).

- Newsradio 850 KOA continues their look at Colorado biotech companies. On March 11, they focused on **Beacon Biotechnologies**. From detecting cancer to infectious diseases, a drop of blood and a small device could mean big things for Beacon. Steffan has more now in this [850KOA Close Up](#)
- Looking for new strategies for managing your company's cash flow during this economic lull? Now is the time to check out [BIO Business Solutions](#), BIO's cost-savings program. With 15 money-saving opportunities with leading providers in the biotech industry, saving your company money is made easier with BIO Business Solutions. Participation is free to members of BIO and 38 state/regional biotech associations. Get a complete list of the products and services available to you [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- A BioBreakfast celebrating the “We Work for Health” Colorado campaign will take place on March 20 at 10 am in Aurora. More information is available [here](#).
- A two-day work shop on Writing Successful SBIR/STTR Grant Applications for NIH, DOD and NSF will be hosted at Colorado Science + Technology Park at Fitzsimons on March 24 and 25. More information on how to register is available [here](#).
- The Northern Colorado Health and Research Coalition spring event will focus on Gerontology and take place on March 31 at 5 pm at the Fort Collins Marriott. More information is available [here](#).
- The Bard Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado Denver will co-sponsor a BioBootcamp on April 30 and May 1. More information on applying to participate is available [here](#).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- CBSA's lobbying team, have provided this week's legislative report.