

For Immediate Release:

August 25, 2004

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San Jose Bioscience Incubator Welcomes First Tenants
Start-ups Cytolution and Manoa Medical open new center

San Jose, California – August 25, 2004 – Bioscience start-ups Cytolution, Inc. and Manoa Medical, Inc. are the first two tenants at the new San Jose Bioscience Incubator and Innovation Center in what will be a charter group of up to 20 young companies to take advantage of San Jose's commitment to technology innovation.

“We are nurturing entrepreneurs with vision who will create jobs and opportunities for our community's long-term prosperity in San Jose,” said Mayor Ron Gonzales. “Our incubators have an excellent track record for helping start-up companies grow into successful enterprises, and we are excited about doing it again in the field of bioscience.”

Cytolution, which relocated from northern Virginia to South San Jose, is developing a new cervical cancer diagnostic device.

“San Jose's Innovation Center gives us instant access to critical resources we need to grow,” said Cytolution founder and CEO Urs Wiederkehr. “Legal, regulatory and marketing experts, experienced executives, venture capitalists and other investors, and many other key business resources will be at our fingertips.”

Relocated from Redwood City, Manoa Medical is developing new technology for breast cancer surgery. “The San Jose center is an outstanding space that includes access to support and equipment that a life science start-up company needs right at the beginning,” said founder and CEO Roberta Lee.

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The San Jose Bioscience Incubator and Innovation Center, funded by a \$6.5 million investment by the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, provides world-class business development services and state-of-the-art facilities to young companies. The mission of the center is to help these companies get important medical advances and new technology applications to the people who need them and to help build San Jose's economic development.

"We have a stringent process for evaluating a company's science and business potential before they become a tenant," said Melinda Richter, managing director of Bay Area GAIN and vice president of strategic partnerships for the Women's Technology Cluster (WTC). "The city's investment will help these companies reach that potential, which will ultimately improve medical treatments and drive economic growth."

Bay Area GAIN manages the San Jose Bioscience Center under contract to the San Jose Redevelopment Agency.

Located at 5941 Optical Court in the Edenvale Technology Park in South San Jose, the new center is the fourth in a series of successful business incubators established by San Jose and the Redevelopment Agency, in partnership with the San Jose State University Foundation over the past 10 years. These incubators provide supportive environments for new companies in industries critical to the long-term prosperity of San Jose and Silicon Valley.

The San Jose Bioscience Incubator and Innovation Center features shared facilities and equipment with wet labs, dry labs, office space, tissue culture facilities and conference rooms. Entrepreneurs who are interested in the Bioscience Center program should contact Peter Marietta at pmarietta@bbloxsolutions.com or (408) 960-3805.

Questions about becoming a tenant, partner or sponsor organization can also be directed to Kathleen Imhoff, executive director of the San Jose Bioscience Center, and managing director, Bay Area GAIN at kimhoff@bbloxsolutions.com or (408) 960.3806; or Melinda Richter at melinda@wtc-sf.org or (415) 421-5500, ext 102. An open house for visitors is held every Tuesday and Thursday, and private tours can also be arranged.

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