



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BioNJ's First New Jersey Life Sciences CEO Summit
Promises to 'Take It to the Top' in October**

*BioNJ CEO Summit to Feature Executive Leadership from
Major Biotech and Pharmaceutical Companies*

TRENTON, NJ (June 19, 2013) – Working from the theme “Take It to the Top,” BioNJ will bring together chief executive officers (CEO) and leaders from major biotech and pharmaceutical firms from New Jersey and beyond this fall to share their knowledge, experiences and views on the future in wide-ranging discussions with fellow executives, investors, entrepreneurs, academics and other members of the State’s diverse and ever-evolving life sciences community.

Take It to the Top, BioNJ’s first CEO Summit will be held October 4, 2013 at the Bridgewater Marriott in Bridgewater, NJ.

“New Jersey’s biopharmaceutical industry has the vision and marketplace leadership to establish our state as the *Medicine Chest of the World*,” said Dr. Francois Nader, President and Chief Executive Officer of NPS Pharmaceuticals and Chairman of BioNJ. “The BioNJ CEO Summit will tap into our State’s extraordinary talent with an iconic event for the life sciences industry that will be a must-attend summit for biopharma professionals throughout the region.”

Touching on some of the most important issues impacting life sciences companies today, the BioNJ CEO Summit will feature industry leaders as Keynote Speakers. Robert J. Hugin, Chairman and CEO of Celgene Corporation will provide the Luncheon Keynote. The Morning Keynote will be provided by Andre Wyss, U.S. Country Head, President of Novartis Corporation and President of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. And John F. Crowley, Chairman and CEO of Amicus Therapeutics, Inc., and Chris Garabedian, President and CEO of Sarapeta Therapeutics, will offer Afternoon Keynotes.

Ongoing New Jersey company success stories will be showcased in Company Presentations by: Will Lewis, President and CEO of Insmmed Incorporated; David Pearson, President of Thrombogenics, Inc.; and Spiro Rombotis, President and CEO of Cyclacel Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

In addition, targeted panels – *Trends in Outsourcing*, the *Elusive IPO Window* and *The Billion Dollar Baby* – will offer new twists and perspectives.

The growing list of speakers and moderators adding their names to the panels includes: Julie Kampf, CEO and President of JBK Associates International; James Marino, Partner at Dechert LLP; Anthony Marucci, Founder, President and CEO of Celldex Therapeutics; Paul Meister, Chairman and CEO of inVentiv Health, Inc.; Kenneth I. Moch, President and CEO of Chimerix, Inc.; Francois Nader, M.D., President and CEO of NPS Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Lorenzo Pellegrini, Ph.D., Partner at Care Capital, LLC; Christian S. Schade, Executive Vice President and CFO of Omthera Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Panna Sharma, President and CEO of Cancer Genetics, Inc.; Glenn Sblendorio, President and CFO of The Medicines Company; and Michael Wells, Managing Director of Princeton Biopharma Capital Partners LLC.

As a prelude to the Summit, the Members of BioNJ's Board of Trustees and Summit speakers and sponsors will participate in an invitation-only fireside chat on October 3 featuring Dominic J. Caruso, Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Johnson & Johnson.

“One of the reasons the biotechnology industry in New Jersey has grown from 80 companies in 1998 to now more than 350 and counting is the willingness of our executives at every level of the community to come together, share information and work toward the mutual goal of supporting the industry,” said Debbie Hart, President and CEO of BioNJ. “Our goal with this summit is to enhance New Jersey's position as one of the leading biotechnology clusters in the world by taking everything to the top – the quality of the speakers and the importance of the topics they will address, the opportunities for networking – literally everything.”

New Jersey's life sciences community is already lining up in support of the Summit. Sponsors to date include: Amicus Therapeutics, Inc., Aptalis Pharma, Celgene Corporation, CohnReznick LLP, Dechert LLP, Deloitte, EisnerAmper LLP, Elusys Therapeutics, Inc., Ernst & Young LLP, inVentiv Health, JBK Associates International, Korn/Ferry International, Marke Communications, MDB Communications LLC, Morgan Lewis, NPS Pharmaceuticals, Reed Smith, Sheppard Mullin, Soligenix, Inc. and Yankee Public Relations.

“Although we've just begun, the support from the industry leadership for the BioNJ CEO Summit has just been outstanding,” said Al Altomari, President and CEO of Agile Therapeutics, BioNJ Board Member and Program Committee Chair. “The BioNJ CEO Summit is going to give attendees insights into the life sciences C-Suite like no other event.”

Registration for the event is \$550 for BioNJ members and \$650 for future members. To register, please visit <http://www.bionj.org/ceosummit2013/home-3> or call (609) 890-3185.

A wide range of sponsorship opportunities are available; for details, please contact Kathleen Otto, Vice President of Business Development and Programs at 609-890-3185 or KOtto@BioNJ.org.

About BioNJ

With more than 300 member companies, BioNJ is singularly focused on the growth and prosperity of New Jersey's biotechnology cluster. Founded in 1994 by New Jersey industry CEOs, BioNJ serves as the voice of biotechnology companies located in New Jersey, seeks to advance their economic growth and development and works to encourage new and established companies from around the world to locate in New Jersey. BioNJ represents companies engaged in biopharmaceutical, biomedical, bioagricultural and bioremedial endeavors.

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