

QPS, HOLDINGS LLC AND SAMSARA SCIENCES, INC. ANNOUNCE LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP

Agreement solidifies cell supply partnership for the production, characterization and distribution of primary human liver cells including hepatocytes and hepatic stellate cells

Research Triangle Park, N.C., San Diego, CA and Medford, MA – March 03, 2016 – Hepatic Biosciences, a division of QPS Holdings, LLC, a U.S.-headquartered contract research organization and cell products manufacturer, and Samsara Sciences (“Samsara”), a provider of specialized human liver cells for research use, announced today an agreement that provides QPS with exclusive distribution rights for Samsara’s primary human hepatocytes. QPS and Samsara will also partner to provide access to specialized non-parenchymal hepatic cells (“NPCs”) and assays for use by researchers globally. The contract provides for offerings in North America, Europe and Asia, and creates a sales and marketing partnership to enable co-promotion of the primary and non-parenchymal products and related services by Samsara and QPS.

“We are extremely pleased to partner with Dr. Presnell and the team at Samsara Sciences. Our combined ability to isolate and provide human hepatic cells from U.S.-based laboratories in both North Carolina and San Diego is very exciting and will improve the overall quality, utility and availability of primary cells and NPCs to researchers globally. Our combined ties to the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and the University of California San Diego ensure that our customers benefit from the cutting-edge research and product innovation that will drive our success,” stated Shiloh Barfield, QPS vice president of life sciences products.

“We are excited to collaborate with QPS and offer customers the advantage of our shared business interests and technical synergies,” added Dr. Sharon Presnell, president of Samsara Sciences. “For Samsara, quality, robust science and customer service are paramount, and the team at QPS was our first choice based on those shared values. Our mission is to ensure that researchers have access not only to premium-quality, ethically sourced hepatocytes, but that the other specialized cell types critical to liver biology and pathogenesis are also available at an equivalent level of quality and characterization. Together, QPS and Samsara Sciences will be a comprehensive resource to support liver cell-based assays.”

About QPS Holdings, LLC

Founded in 1995, QPS is a GLP/GCP-compliant contract research organization (CRO) and life sciences products supplier supporting discovery, preclinical, and clinical drug development, providing quality services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients worldwide. QPS linearly integrated core competencies include: neuropharmacology, DMPK, liver research, toxicology, bioanalysis, translational medicine, and early and late phase clinical research program management. QPS regional laboratories and testing facilities are located at company headquarters in Newark, DE; Springfield, MO; Fargo, ND; Research Triangle Park, NC; Hollywood, FL; South Miami, FL, USA; Groningen, The Netherlands; Graz, Austria; Hyderabad, India; Barcelona, Spain; and Taipei, Taiwan. For more information, visit <http://www.qps.com>
<http://hepaticbio.com>

About Samsara Sciences, Inc.

Samsara Sciences was formed in 2015 and is located in San Diego, CA. Samsara is dedicated to the provision of high-quality primary human liver cells, including hepatocytes and non-parenchymal cells, for use in pharmaceutical and academic research focused on liver health and disease. The Company’s first products, primary human hepatic stellate cells, are available at www.samsarasciences.com. Samsara is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Organovo Holdings, Inc.

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