



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OXFORD GENE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPS THE OLIGOME™ DATABASE FOR CUSTOMISED MICROARRAY DESIGN

Oxford Gene Technology (OGT) has launched the Oligome, a comprehensive database of more than 10 million oligonucleotide probes designed to the latest release of the human genome. This invaluable resource makes it possible to provide custom-designed oligonucleotide arrays for array-based comparative genomic hybridisation (aCGH) on request, within a very short space of time and at a lower cost than would normally be expected for a custom array.

OGT's 60mer oligonucleotide microarrays are fabricated using inkjet technology with base-by-base synthesis that allows high precision feature placement, and denser coverage of regions of interest. OGT offers custom-designed CGH arrays for analysing chromosomal abnormalities within focussed areas of the human genome at high resolution. As part of the free design service, scientists can simply provide OGT their regions of interest. OGT then performs the Oligome based bioinformatics required to design, fabricate and deliver the desired focussed arrays.

"In the past, we have provided custom-made arrays focusing on certain genomic regions by processing the sequence of interest," said Dr Volker Brenner, senior computational biologist at OGT. "Now that we have compiled the Oligome, we can easily query the database and produce the array design much more quickly, and at a lower cost for the customer."

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About Oxford Gene Technology

Founded in 1995 by the pioneer of Southern Blotting, Professor Sir Edwin Southern, OGT operates out of Begbroke Business Park near Oxford. OGT offers a comprehensive custom microarray consultancy service, from experimental design through all stages to data analysis and interpretation. It has a strong proven track record in providing custom microarray services in a range of applications including gene expression (GE), comparative genome hybridisation (CGH) and chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP).

OGT's range of CytoSure™ products are the first oligonucleotide microarrays designed exclusively for the cytogenetics community to achieve accurate, high resolution analysis of chromosome copy number and structural changes. In addition, OGT offers a rapid design service providing focussed custom arrays through its unique oligonucleotide probe database, the Oligome™.

OGT holds a large number of patent families covering a range of technologies.

The company continues to research areas, such as digital microarrays and single cell analysis, with the aim of revolutionising gene expression analysis.

For further information on OGT visit <http://www.ogt.co.uk/>

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