



## **ASURAGEN BECOMES THE FIRST CERTIFIED SERVICE PROVIDER FOR ILLUMINA GENE EXPRESSION PROFILING**

**Austin, Texas, San Diego, Calif., January 10, 2007** – Illumina, Inc. (NASDAQ: ILMN) and Asuragen, Inc., an oncology molecular diagnostic company and molecular biology service provider, announced today that Asuragen has successfully completed Illumina Certified Service Provider (CSPro™) certification for gene expression profiling. Asuragen is the first commercial service provider to offer Illumina gene expression profiling services. Illumina, a San Diego, California based company, provides next-generation tools for the large-scale analysis of genetic variation and function.

“In response to customer requests, we are pleased to offer an additional choice in Gene Expression Profiling with the Illumina platform,” said Rollie Carlson, President of Asuragen. “The work performed by Asuragen and Illumina to demonstrate proficiency in the CSPro program will assure customers quality data.”

Asuragen is now accepting whole-genome (WG) samples for gene expression profiling using Illumina’s Human-6 Expression BeadChip. The Human-6 Expression BeadChip contains more than 46,000 gene targets and allows researchers to generate WG expression profiles. Combined with Asuragen’s sample preparation, researchers can perform gene expression profiling from low amounts of starting sample, including those traditionally used in clinical settings, such as biopsies, fine needle aspirates, etc. Data from the Illumina platform is compatible with Asuragen’s Standard Service Premium and Pathways Analysis Services.

“Our commitment to quality and innovative technologies is what inspired us to become an Illumina CSPro. The Illumina platform allows us to provide solutions to the experimental needs of our customers,” said Scott Hunicke-Smith, Vice President and General Manager of Asuragen Services. “Recent results from the MicroArray Quality Control project confirmed that Illumina’s gene expression technology is capable of generating excellent quality and performance, and boosting the number of detected genes.” A summary of findings from the MAQC project can be found at [www.switchto.com](http://www.switchto.com).

“Illumina CSPro only includes organizations that provide customers with industry-leading data quality and service in genetic analysis,” said Karen Possemato, Illumina’s Director of Corporate Marketing. “Asuragen is the first commercial service provider in the world to expand its services to include Illumina’s gene expression technology. This is a significant accomplishment for both companies, and further demonstrates the expansion of our gene expression technology in the life science community.”

### **About Illumina CSPro**

Illumina CSPro is a collaborative service provider partnership dedicated to ensuring the delivery of the highest-quality data available for genetic analysis applications. Illumina CSPros undergo a rigorous two-phase certification process that include minimum data generation, data certification and on-site audit of the facility and processes. For more information about the CSPro program, please visit [www.illumina.com/cspro](http://www.illumina.com/cspro).

### **About Illumina**

Illumina ([www.illumina.com](http://www.illumina.com)) is developing next-generation tools for the large-scale analysis of genetic variation and function.

## **About Asuragen, Inc.**

Asuragen, Inc. is a newly formed company that resulted from the sale, in March 2006, of the Research Products Division of Ambion, Inc. to Applied Biosystems Group. Asuragen is comprised of two of Ambion's former divisions, Diagnostics and Services, along with the formation of a new Discovery group dedicated to developing new technologies that will become cutting edge clinical products.

Asuragen provides a comprehensive range of molecular services enabling scientists to make more informed and reliable decisions. Asuragen's expertise in RNA serves as focal point for all of its services, including Gene Expression Profiling, microRNA Expression Profiling, data analysis and bioinformatics support, and nucleic acid isolation. Asuragen's GLP services are suitable for clinical research studies, pharmacogenomics, and biomarker discovery. For more information, please visit [www.asuragen.com](http://www.asuragen.com).

*"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: This release may contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Among the important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in any forward-looking statements are the costs and outcome of Illumina's litigation with Affymetrix, our ability to effectively integrate our recent acquisition of Solexa, Inc., Illumina's ability to further develop and commercialize its BeadArray technologies and to deploy new gene expression and genotyping products and applications for its platform technology, Illumina's ability to manufacture robust Sentrix® arrays and Oligator® oligonucleotides, Illumina's ability to scale and integrate CyVera technology, and other factors detailed in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission including its recent filings on Forms 10-K and 10-Q or in information disclosed in public conference calls, the date and time of which are released beforehand. Illumina disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements beyond the date of this release.*

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### **Contact:**

Scott Hunicke-Smith  
Vice President of Services  
Asuragen, Inc.  
(512) 651-0191  
[shunickesmith@asuragen.com](mailto:shunickesmith@asuragen.com)

### **Contact:**

Maurissa Bornstein  
Public Relations Manager  
Illumina, Inc.  
858-332-4055  
[mbornstein@illumina.com](mailto:mbornstein@illumina.com)