



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SELEXIS AND NKT THERAPEUTICS ENTER INTO RESEARCH SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**Geneva, Switzerland, September 1, 2009** – Selexis SA ("Selexis") and NKT Therapeutics, Inc. ("NKTT") announce today that they have entered into a research services agreement whereby Selexis will screen antibody variants and generate high performance CHO-based production cell lines using their novel platform named INTEGRA-D2M™. The Selexis INTEGRA-D2M™ platform enables the rapid isolation of production cell lines concomitant with the selection of lead compounds from libraries of protein variants expressed in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells. Utilizing INTEGRA-D2M™, protein variant libraries of sizes larger than 10<sup>3</sup> can be screened to identify lead compounds in less than 9 weeks. The selected CHO-based protein variant expressing clone can then be used directly for cGMP manufacturing.

"We are excited about the partnership with NKTT, who are recognized as leaders in the biology and therapeutic applications for modulating Natural Killer T cells," said Dr. Igor Fisch, CEO and co-founder of Selexis SA. "Our novel and powerful INTEGRA-D2M™ platform, is able to support NKTT in rapidly making their final product decision while we also develop and deliver a high-performance production cell line ready for cGMP manufacturing".

"We greatly appreciate working with the team at Selexis and utilizing their powerful technology platform" adds Dr Alem Truneh, Chief Scientific Officer and co-founder of NKT Therapeutics.

**About Selexis INTEGRA-D2M™ Platform**

Developed by Selexis over the last 2 years, the Selexis INTEGRA-D2M™ platform is a simple, non-robotic based approach enabling the screening of protein libraries in CHO cells. Such stable CHO-based libraries are developed in less than 9 weeks and enable the rapid selection of the best product candidates with respect to functionality (i.e. binding assay, neutralization assay) and titers (with reduced future COGS). The platform is also directly linked to the generation of high producing cell clones (for cGMP manufacturing) that are then generated in 12 weeks. The benefits of this approach are better preclinical decisions, dramatically shortened timelines and lower overall operational costs.

**About Selexis:**

Selexis is a privately held Swiss biotechnology company dedicated to the development of innovative technologies and expert services that enable significant improvements in the time, effort, and costs required to develop and maintain high-performance mammalian cell lines used in the expression of pharmaceutically relevant proteins (i.e. targets, MAbs, rProteins). The company's core intellectual property portfolio is based on the discovery and application of novel DNA based elements that control the dynamic organization of chromatin within all mammalian cells – Selexis Genetic Elements™. Selexis has further developed platforms, to include: Selexis SUREtech Vectors™, Selexis SUREfection™, Selexis SURE Cell Line Development™ and Selexis INTEGRA-D2M™.

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**About NKT Therapeutics Inc.**

NKT Therapeutics, Inc. is a privately held biotechnology company focused on developing therapeutics based on unique immune cells called natural killer T (NKT) cells. The company's mission is to use its expertise to develop a pipeline of first-in-class NKT-based therapeutics to treat asthma, cancer, autoimmune and infectious diseases. For more information on the company, please visit <http://www.nktr.com/>.