



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Alain Huriez, M.D., New CEO of Neovacs,

The Pioneer in Human Polyclonal Antibodies Response

Paris, August 25, 2003 – Neovacs, the leader in the development of novel anticytokine and anti viral antibody therapies today announced the appointment of Alain Huriez, M.D., as CEO. Alain brings nearly 15 years of international executive and operational experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry, as well as a solid track record in funding, advising, and participating in the growth of early-stage companies. Alain will be responsible for overall strategy and operations for Neovacs.

“Alain’s rare blend of medical practice, success at international executive positions, experience in drug development, along with his thorough understanding of early-stage biotech companies will give Neovacs the added focus and managerial strength to bring the company to its next phase of development, expand globally, and become an industry leader,” said Daniel Zagury, MD, Neovacs founder and president of the scientific advisory board.

“I am excited to join Neovacs. Neovacs is developing what, I believe, will be the next generation of antibodies therapies: human, polyclonal, and potent.” said Huriez.

Alain remains Associate Director with Truffle Venture. Prior to Truffle Venture, Alain was Vice President of Quintiles, the world largest contract pharmaceutical organization, in charge of the Biotechnology Consulting Group, a separate entity that Alain founded, specialized in offering strategic counsel to biotechnology listed companies in Europe and the United States of America. As Vice President of the Biotechnology Consulting Group, Alain set-up subsidiaries for the group, as well as European launches for companies listed on TSE and NASDAQ. Alain has held other executive positions including European and worldwide program director for Phoenix (MDS), SB (GSK), Innovex and Quintiles. Alain received his

M.D. degree from the University of Amiens, France, holds a Post Graduate degree in Business Administration (MBA, a Statistics and Methodology degree from the University of Paris VII, and a Masters of Pharmaco-Economics from the University of Paris I Sorbonne.

Daniel Zagury, MD, Neovacs founder was nominated President of Neovacs' scientific advisory board. Former Neovacs CEO, Jean-Francois Bensahel, will remain a member of the Board, and Philippe Pouletty, MD, general partner of Truffle, became chairman of Neovacs.

About Neovacs

Neovacs, a spin-off company from Pierre et Marie Curie Paris VI University, was founded in 1993 by Professor Daniel Zagury, M.D., one of the best-known French immunologists and AIDS scientists. The company's research and development has contributed to an impressive number of broad patents and potential drug candidates to treat AIDS, cancer, autoimmune and allergic diseases. Neovacs is recognized as the pioneer in therapeutic vaccines against human cytokines (*Kinoids*) and immunosuppressive viral proteins (*Toxoids*). Currently, humanized monoclonal antibodies are widely used to neutralize cytokines and treat patients with cytokine-related diseases. In contrast to exogenous monoclonal antibody therapies, Neovacs' vaccine approach can induce a natural and potent polyclonal antibody response by the patient himself, that may last longer, require fewer administrations, and may not encounter common antibody resistance. Neovacs benefits from an excellent R&D platform, located at two sites within the Pierre et Marie Curie Paris VI University. In 1999, Neovacs signed a development and licensing agreement with Aventis Pasteur for one of its first promising products, *Tat Toxoid*, a leading candidate for treatment of HIV infections. Tat Toxoid is being developed in collaboration with Aventis Pasteur. Aventis Pasteur, the vaccines business of Aventis, is one of the world's largest vaccine producers.

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