

To the Press:

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Exiqon releases new advanced bioinformatics tools for custom design of microRNA assays based on real-time PCR and mRNA assays by *in situ* hybridization

Exiqon A/S (NASDAQ OMX: EXQ), a leading supplier of high-value gene expression analysis products, today announced the extension of the miRCURY™ LNA microRNA PCR product line with the launch of a novel bioinformatics software for the design of *custom qPCR* assays for microRNA quantification.

The new on-line microRNA qPCR assay design software supports the need for assays designed against customers' own proprietary microRNAs. As next generation sequencing is gaining market acceptance, more customers need to verify microRNAs discovered by sequencing. Exiqon is now able to address this need by offering custom assays based on LNA™ (Locked Nucleic Acid) enabled real-time PCR.

"The new bioinformatics tool combine the power of the LNA™ detection technology and many years of experience at Exiqon in the design of LNA™-enhanced assays", said Vice President Sales & Marketing Henrik M. Pfundheller and added: "An advanced algorithm evaluates in less than 2 minutes more than 3000 primer pair designs based on more than 60 different design criteria to find the best LNA™ primer pairs for optimal performance".

Exiqon today also launched new software for the design of LNA™ probes for mRNA detection by *in situ* hybridization. The new mRNA Detection probe software designs LNA™ probes for mRNA *in situ* hybridization. Using this approach, researchers can avoid working with the time-consuming and costly generation of ribo-probes. Based on mRNA target sequence, the advanced software will within 1 minute evaluate more than 5000 designs based on over 20 design criteria.

"In the recent years we have observed an increasing interest in using LNA™-enhanced probes for mRNA *in situ* hybridization. With the new software our customers can design LNA™ probes in a fast and easy way and add relevant tags for detection", said Henrik M. Pfundheller.

The real-time PCR design software is available at <http://www.exiqon.com/miRNA-qpcr-designer> and the mRNA Detection probe software is available at <http://www.exiqon.com/rna-ish>

Additional information

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About Exiqon

Exiqon's products are based on the proprietary LNA™ technology. This technology offers unique advantages for detection of microRNA biomarkers for life science researchers, drug developers and cancer treating physicians working towards personalizing medicine. Exiqon operates in two business areas: Exiqon Life Sciences has established a position for itself as one of the market's leading providers of microRNA research products for microRNA analysis in cells. Our research products are used by academia, biotech and pharmaceutical companies around the world to make groundbreaking discoveries about the correlation between gene activity and the development of cancer and other diseases. Exiqon Life Sciences is also collaborating with pharmaceutical companies in their effort to develop new medicines based on microRNA as biological markers (Exiqon Pharma Services). Exiqon Diagnostics collaborates with pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies to develop novel molecular diagnostic tests for early detection of diseases which can help physicians make treatment decisions. Exiqon is listed on the NASDAQ OMX in Copenhagen. For more information about us, please visit www.exiqon.com.

