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Microbe Inotech Laboratories, Inc. Newsletter

The MiL inc. Announces New Partnership

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Dear Bruce C.,

The MiL inc. is extremely pleased to announce our new partnership with CombiMatrix Corporation. CombiMatrix Corporation is a biotech company headquartered near Seattle, WA. The company has captured a unique portion of the DNA microarray market. This exciting partnership allows The MiL inc. to expand our product and services offering to include the new and exciting field of DNA microarrays. This cutting edge technology will give our customers the ability to screen hundreds or thousands of samples at a time for specific genetic sequences! For those wanting more background on microarrays, we invite you to check out our website .

Diagnostic Environmental Microbiology One-Day Workshop Scheduled for Friday, June 23rd

Watch for our upcoming newsletter with all the registration information for our one-day workshop to be held at the Danforth Plant Sciences Center in St. Louis on June 23rd. Attendance will be limited to 200 on a first to register basis. It has been rescheduled to this date and location, to accomodate our out-of- state guests needing close hotel arrangements. In addition to

- **About CombiMatrix CustomArray(TM) Technology**

CombiMatrix CustomArray™ DNA Synthesizers use a specially modified semiconductor chip to direct the synthesis of specific sequences of DNA probes. Each feature on the array (a microelectrode) is individually electronically controlled to generate a focused positive charge. The positive charge causes a detritylation reaction during probe synthesis using phosphoramidite chemistry. Software is used to control the pattern applied on the array during synthesis. The result of merging biochemistry with semi-conductor technology is the foundation of the CombiMatrix CustomArray™ technology.

The CombiMatrix CustomArray™ is a high quality, completely customizable DNA microarray. Since the oligonucleotide probes can be defined by the user and updated or changed at any time the technology is especially useful for scientists studying unusual organisms or using designs that are often updated. All CombiMatrix microarrays are manufactured under stringent conditions where each and every probe on every array is 100% functionally tested to ensure the

speakers from our staff, i.e. Dr. Bruce Hemming and Andrew W. Johnson, we have a number of other guest speakers. The agenda and registration fee information will be sent to those requesting information on our website (see newsletter subscription interest catagories). Make sure you have added our new address and contact numbers to your databases. Our old telephone and fax number are still valid because we have them telebranched to us, but they will eventually be closed out.

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best results possible with each hybridization.

- **CombiMatrix Advantages and our Joint Product Offering**

The new alliance between CombiMatrix and The MiL inc. gives you, our clients, many options. As a result of this agreement, you need not be array experts to use microarrays. You will have the choice between selecting one of CombiMatrix pre-designed line of arrays (CatalogArrays, MicroRNA arrays created from the latest 8.0 Sanger database, and the Influenza A microarrays) or creating your own customized array, with both companies available to help you in the design.

For testing your samples you will also have two options. You can simply submit your samples and within a few weeks have DNA microarray results or if you wish to retain more control over the hybridization process you may purchase CombiMatrix CustomArray (TM) or CatalogArrays through The MiL inc, which you may then hybridize in your own lab. To scan CombiMatrix microarrays all you will need is a good scanner having 1) a resolution of 5 microns or better and 2) an adjustable focus (manual, or the auto-focusing type).

We also offer many different formats from which to choose. There are various density microarrays as well as sectored arrays which minimize your cost per test. Currently you can select either the 12K or the 4X2K sectored microarray. The 12 K offers 12,000 user defined features while the 4 X 2K offers a sectored version of the 12K with 4 sections of 2,000 user defined features; each section can be individually hybridized with a different sample. In addition, as of the beginning of May, CombiMatrix will be providing us with their 90K microarray. This high density format gives our customers 90,000 user defined CUSTOMIZABLE features, watch for further details in the next newsletter.

In addition, we offer many options relative to the content of the microarrays. You can create your own content. This option is especially useful if you are studying unique organisms, or if your probe designs rapidly change due to factors such as sequencing updates or a need to respond to results from previous or concurrent experiments. Additionally, customers always have the option of purchasing one of CombiMatrix pre-designed arrays through The MiL inc.

- **Catalog Arrays and miRNA**

COMBIMATRIX

CatalogArrays

CombiMatrix CatalogArrays available through The MiL inc include bacteria (i.e. *E.coli* K12), viruses (HIV), yeasts and other fungi as well as Human, Rat, Mouse, Canine and other organisms. The benefit of CombiMatrix CatalogArrays is the flexibility of

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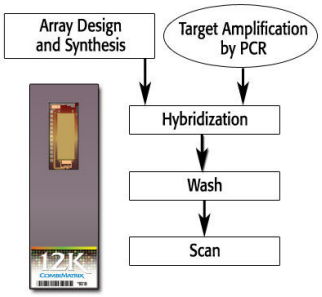
utilizing the most current information in your probe design or using an older version for continuity, either way, you decide.

MicroRNA MicroRNAs are small RNA molecules encoded in the genomes of plants and animals. These highly conserved RNA's regulate the expression of genes and are believed to be critical in controlling physiology in areas that include neural development, viral disease and cancer. There is also evidence that miRNAs may act as key regulators of processes as diverse as early development, cell proliferation, apoptosis, fat metabolism and cell differentiation.

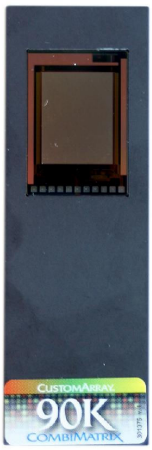
We offer 2 "kinds" of miRNA microarrays: Species Specific and CustomContent. Species Specific miRNA microarrays utilize pre-designed probes from the Sanger 8.0 database for 9 different species (or species combinations). The CustomContent miRNA microarray allows you to create your own probes from 36 species on the CustomArray(TM) 4X2K format. miRNA designs have been updated and made current to include recent updates in the Sanger database (version 8.0).

- **Homeland Security --Influenza microarray**



Influenza In addition to our Anthrax work as a Select Agent Laboratory, we are pleased that the CombiMatrix Influenza A Research Microarray can detect and accurately type flu strains with hemagglutinin subtypes 1 through 16 and neuraminidase subtypes 1 through 9 using a protocol that requires less than four hours start to finish. In addition to providing very high resolution information on genotype of any given flu strain, it can also provide information on novel strains of flu produced by rapid mutation or recombination between multiple strains of flu.

- **Coming in May**



In the month of May, CombiMatrix will be adding the 90K microarray to the available platforms for us. In accordance, many more high density CatalogArrays will be added, so check back often to see what's new. Feel free to contact or email, Dr. Hemming (bhemming@microbeinotech.com) if the design you're interested in isn't visible on our website. Due to the flexibility of the CombiMatrix platform most things are possible.

Learn more about the MiL inc.

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