company announcement

Monday 4 April 2005

Dr Roger Aston, founding director of pSivida and former Peptech CEO, appointed to EpiTan Board

Melbourne, Australia

EpiTan Limited (ASX:EPT, ADR:EPTNY, XETRA:UR9) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Roger Aston as a non-executive director. Dr Aston was a founding director at pSivida Limited (ASX:PSD) and is currently director of strategy. He was formerly CEO of Peptech Limited.

Dr Aston has more than 20 years experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. His other previous positions include: Director of Cambridge Antibody Technology Limited (UK) and Chairman of Cambridge Drug Discovery Limited (UK), now BioFocus plc, and founder and CEO of Biokine Technology Ltd (UK) prior to its acquisition by the Peptech Group.

Dr Aston is currently an executive director of Australian Cancer Technology Limited (ASX:ACU).

Mr Stan McLiesh, Chairman of EpiTan's Remuneration and Nomination Committee, said: "We are delighted that Roger is joining our board. He has an outstanding record in biotechnology and brings significant international and scientific experience to EpiTan at an important time in our company's progress towards Phase III clinical trials and commercialisation."

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In mid 2003 EpiTan signed a collaborative agreement with pSivida Limited. EpiTan and pSivida are working together to develop a new liquid-based sustained-release formulation for MELANOTAN™ incorporating pSivida's BioSilicon™ nanotechnology.

In January EpiTan's directors agreed to expand the Board, increasing the number of directors with international experience to reflect the increasingly broad geographic focus of the company.

About EpiTan

EpiTan Limited is a Melbourne-based specialty pharmaceutical company with a strategy focussed on growing a business centred on dermatology products.

The company's leading drug candidate, for which EpiTan holds exclusive worldwide rights, is MELANOTAN™ which is in clinical development. MELANOTAN™ is EpiTan's brand name for [Nle^4,D-Phe^7]-alpha-MSH, a synthetic analogue of the naturally occurring hormone alpha-MSH, which stimulates melanin production. The four other products, for which EpiTan holds the rights for Australia and New Zealand, are Linotar®, Exorex®, Zindaclin® and OraDisc™ A. Linotar and Exorex are in market. Zindaclin and OraDisc A are scheduled to be launched in late 2005 and 2006 respectively.

EpiTan is currently evaluating the in-licensing of other dermatology products to add to its portfolio.

About MELANOTAN™

MELANOTAN™ stimulates the body to make melanin, the dark pigment of a tan which is known to protect the body from skin damage as a result of exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation. UV radiation damage can cause sunburn and sunburn injury is widely recognised as a precursor to skin cancer. MELANOTAN™ stimulates melanin production without the need to expose the skin to UV radiation.

MELANOTAN™ has completed a Phase II clinical trial (daily liquid injections) in Australia which demonstrated that the drug reduced sunburn injury by up to 50% in fair-skinned

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volunteers. This represents a significant breakthrough for people most at risk of sunburn injury and skin cancer. EpiTan has expanded its clinical studies of MELANOTAN™ into Europe. These trials have two aims: to assess MELANOTAN™'s potential both as a preventative to reduce the effects of UV damage to skin and as a therapy for UV-associated skin disorders such as polymorphous light eruption (PMLE); and to test an alternative delivery (transdermal) formulation.

MELANOTAN™ has a number of delivery formulations in development. The most advanced is a sustained release injectable implant which is being used in a Phase II endpoint trial due to begin in Sydney in April 2005. The testing of a selection of transdermal formulations is also in progress.

An independent report commissioned by the company identified that there are two potentially lucrative markets for MELANOTAN™. Firstly, the prophylactic market which includes those fair-skinned populations that seek additional protection from UV damage because their levels of melanin do not normally increase when they are exposed to UV radiation. This may also include use by people who visit tanning salons. Secondly, the therapeutic market consisting of patients with UV-associated skin diseases or disorders for which MELANOTAN™ may provide a therapeutic benefit.

For more information contact:

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Rule 3.19A.1

Appendix 3X

Initial Director's Interest Notice

Information or documents not available now must be given to ASX as soon as available. Information and documents given to ASX become ASX's property and may be made public.

Introduced 30/9/2001.

Name of entity EpiTan Limited
ABN 88 089 644 119

We (the entity) give ASX the following information under listing rule 3.19A.1 and as agent for the director for the purposes of section 205G of the Corporations Act.

Name of Director	Roger Aston
Date of appointment	1 April 2005

Part 1 - Director's relevant interests in securities of which the director is the registered holder
In the case of a trust, this includes interests in the trust made available by the responsible entity of the trust

Number & class of securities
nil

Part 2 – Director's relevant interests in securities of which the director is not the registered holder
In the case of a trust, this includes interests in the trust made available by the responsible entity of the trust

Name of holder & nature of interest Note: Provide details of the circumstances giving rise to the relevant interest.	**Number & class of Securities**
	nil

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

Part 3 – Director's interests in contracts

Detail of contract	-Nil-
Nature of interest	Not applicable
Name of registered holder (if issued securities)	Not applicable
No. and class of securities to which interest relates	Not applicable

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.