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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **ChanTest to Highlight Expanded Ion Channel and GPCR Services and Cell Lines, Including FDA Critical Path Safety Profiling Tools at ToxExpo, Booth 3056**

- **Company to host seminar Tuesday, March 17, 2009, from 8:30 to 9:30 AM in Room 337**

CLEVELAND, Ohio (March 10, 2009) – ChanTest, the leading expert in ion channels and GPCRs (G-protein coupled receptors) – key to drug discovery, development, and safety – will feature the latest in its expanding line of services and reagents at booth 3056 at the Society of Toxicology conference March 15-19, in Baltimore, Maryland. ChanTest's growing catalog, comprising 86 ion channel and 48 GPCR cell lines, can be arranged into panels for preclinical testing, consistent with the FDA and ICH S7A safety guidance, to assess a drug's risk for unintended cardiac (ICH S7B) and CNS (ICH S7A) effects. ChanTest also offers channel panels and high-throughput screening to assess the efficacy and safety of compounds as therapeutic targets for a number of diseases and disorders including cancer, cardiovascular, metabolic/gastrointestinal, pain/inflammation, psychiatric disorder, pulmonary/respiratory, and seizure/convulsion. ChanTest has validated these panels against the "gold standard" manual patch clamp assay to ensure that results from early screens will correlate with GLP study results that are required for IND submission.

For customers that prefer to do their own testing in house, ChanTest offers its catalog of validated ion channel and GPCR replicating cell lines for sale as reagents. Thirty-six division-arrested GPCR cell lines (EZCells™) are also available.

"ChanTest is well known as the leader in preclinical cardiac safety testing. We were the first to prove hERG as the target for adverse cardiac events linked to Seldane (terfenadine), Propulsid (cisapride), and Nizoral (ketoconazole), and the pioneer in functional, cell-based ion channel testing to predict cardiac side effects produced by non-cardiac drugs," said ChanTest Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Arthur (Buzz) Brown, M.D., Ph.D. "As the knowledge base has expanded about the interrelated nature of ion channels and GPCRs in cell signaling, many of our customers have been requesting complementary GPCR cell lines and testing capabilities. Now, with our recent acquisition of Applied Cell Sciences, we can deliver ion channel and GPCR assays and cell lines – individually, or in combination to provide a complete safety profile. Because ChanTest specializes in both ion channels and GPCRs, scientists can count on ChanTest's experts to interpret what the results mean, not just report raw data as is typical of many CROs."

- **Seminar: Ion Channel Panels in Safety Assessment (March 17, 8:30 am, room 337)** – Drug-induced ion channel dysfunction may result in diverse adverse reactions. This one-hour seminar will discuss how toxicity screening, secondary confirmatory screening, and selectivity profiling using ChanTest's Human Ion Channel Panels™ and automated patch clamp methods can facilitate decision-making in drug development.

#### **About ChanTest – The Ion Channel/GPCR Company ([www.chantest.com](http://www.chantest.com))**

The leading experts in ion channels and GPCR (G-protein coupled receptors) – ChanTest and Applied Cell Sciences (ACS) – are now united to help global pharmaceutical and biotech customers speed the drug-discovery and development process, save time and money, and ultimately – to help make better, safer drugs. ChanTest offers integrated ion channel and GPCR services (both automated high-throughput and GLP), cell lines, membranes, and reagents that cover nearly half of the known drugable genome. Since its inception in 1998, ChanTest has tested more than 20,000 compounds for more than 500 pharmaceutical and biotech companies

worldwide. ChanTest continues to expand its library of ion channel- and ion channel/GPCR-expressing cell lines – the most comprehensive in the world – with funding from the Ohio Department of Development’s Third Frontier Program. Now, for the first time, customers can profile the efficacy and selectivity of drug leads against an extensive set of ion channels and GPCRs in functional, cell-based assays. ChanTest can screen drug leads, or large compound collections, against its entire catalog or against specific books in the catalog. Because of ChanTest’s seminal role in this field, along with the company’s uncompromising commitment to quality, ChanTest was named “most trusted fee for-service provider” for ion channel screening in the HTStec Ion Channel Trends Survey for two years in a row. ChanTest is based in Cleveland, Ohio. For more information, e-mail [info@chantest.com](mailto:info@chantest.com).

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