

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**First G:BOX HR Gel Documentation System Installed on Jurong Island
Will Contribute to Major Research Programmes in Emerging Technology Hub**

Cambridge, UK: Syngene, a world-leading manufacturer of image analysis solutions, today announced the installation of its first G:BOX HR gel documentation system at the Institute of Chemical and Engineering Science (ICES), an up and coming research centre on Jurong Island, Singapore.

The G:BOX HR system at the ICES features a high resolution camera inside its own light-tight darkroom and comes complete with overhead white lighting, a 20cm x 20 cm UV transilluminator and GeneTools, Syngene's premier image analysis software. This state-of-the-art system, marketed and installed at the ICES by Insta BioAnalytik Pte Ltd, Syngene's expert distributor in the region, will be used to automate analysis of gel and blot imaging in a number of interesting molecular biology research programmes and provides Syngene with another key gel documentation reference to add to its growing list of prestigious international clients.

Andrew Lee, Technical Services Manager at Insta BioAnalytik Pte Ltd explained: "To raise its competitive edge, Singapore is moving to produce higher-value-added specialty products to support the biomedical sector. As part of Singapore's effort to move up the value chain, the ICES was set up on Jurong Island and is establishing itself as a centre of excellence for life science research, which is why having this institute choose one of Syngene's premier imaging systems is such an honour."

Laura Sullivan, Syngene's Divisional Manager added: "To accelerate the pace of research in many biomedical fields, more than 70 Syngene image analysis systems have been installed at major institutes in Singapore since 2001. These include the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University and the Biopolis, international research and development centre for biomedical sciences. We are therefore delighted the scientists at the ICES have decided to join this group of discerning researchers by installing a G:BOX HR gel documentation system and look forward to working with them and others in Singapore to help advance their molecular biology programmes even further."

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For Further Information Contact:

Jayne Arthur, Syngene, Beacon House, Nuffield Road, Cambridge, CB4 1TF, UK.
Tel: +44(0) 1223-727123 Fax +44 (0) 1223-727101
Email: jayne.arthur@syngene.com Web site: www.syngene.com

Andrew Lee, Insta BioAnalytik Pte Ltd, 8 Boon Lay Way, #03-10, Tradehub 21,
Singapore 609964.
Tel: +65 6515 0110 Fax: +65 6515 0220
Email: andrew@instabioanalytik.com Web: www.instabioanalytik.com

Editor Contact:

Dr Sue Pearson, PO Box 170, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 3GD, UK.
Tel/Fax +44 (0) 1462-635327 Email: sue6.pearson@ntlworld.com

Note to Editors**About Syngene**

Syngene is a world-leading supplier of integrated imaging solutions for analysis and documentation of gel-based information. Syngene's systems are used by more than 10,000 research organizations organisations and over 50,000 individual scientists world-wide and include many of the world's top pharmaceutical companies and major research institutes.

Syngene, founded in 1997 is a division of the Cambridge based Synoptics Group. The Group's other divisions, Syncroscopy and Synbiosis, specialise in digital imaging solutions for microscopy and microbial applications respectively. Synoptics currently employs 50 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.

About The Institute of Chemical and Engineering Sciences (ICES)

The Institute of Chemical and Engineering Sciences (ICES) is a member of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR). Established in 2002, ICES' mission is to develop scientific knowledge, R&D manpower and technological capabilities to support future and current needs of Singapore's chemical, biomedical and process engineering industries. The research programmes cover chemistry and chemical engineering science, combined with advanced analytical characterisation and measurement to develop state of the art technology for the petrochemical, general chemical, fine chemical and pharmaceutical industries.