

## **Installation of South East Asia's First Liquid Nitrogen- and Cryogen-Free Freezer at Singapore's NUH - NUS Tissue Repository**

Singapore: Grant Instruments is proud to announce the installation of the first unit of the liquid nitrogen- and cryogen – free controlled rate freezer in South East Asia. The freezer will be set up at the NUH - NUS Tissue Repository in April 2008 by their regional distributor, Insta bioAnalytik Pte Ltd.

NUH – NUS Tissue Repository (TR) is the major body offering tissue-banking services for the local scientific arena. TR manages and offers researchers a large collection of high-quality biomaterials for example DNA, RNA, tissue samples, primary cell cultures, cryostats and etc.

The first system in the world without liquid nitrogen, the EF600 freezer is a dedicated machine for use in cryopreservation of embryos, stem cells, cord blood, spermatozoa, and etc. Compared to liquid nitrogen systems, the EF600 freezer poses no contamination risks and can be used in clean rooms. With its compact design, it can be conveniently placed on laboratory benches. The cooling rate is precisely controlled for better viability of cells. Grant Instruments offers various 'heads' for different applications – high security straws, cryovials, bone marrow bags and so on.

Dr Robert Hewitt, Director at TR commented, "The NUH-NUS Tissue Repository is committed to providing high quality and well documented human biomaterials in a safe, efficient and ethical manner to the research community. With the acquisition of the EF600, we're able to precisely control our freezing process for isolated cells from the patient's materials. This is especially important for the cryopreservation of primary culture to ensure maximum recovery and viability of the cells. In the near future, the EF600 would be used for cryopreservation of other cells type such as the immortalization cell from patients whole blood samples."

"We always aim to be an active participant in the introduction of the latest technologies to the scientific and medical communities. We are very pleased that NUH-NUS Tissue Repository has made EF600 their preferred choice for the cryopreservation of isolated cells from patient's samples." Ms Judy Lim, Managing Director of Insta BioAnalytik Pte Ltd announced.

Mr David McCormick, International Sales Manager of Grant Instruments said, "I am delighted to see the first unit installed in South East Asia. It is a remarkable system and shows how serious the region is to promote advancement in the field of cryopreservation. The potential for this system is incredible and Grant is already considering and developing different applications for the future. This will be the first of many units to be placed in South East Asia and I would like to thank our partner, Insta BioAnalytik, for all their hard work and efforts to promote our unique system. It is a very exciting time."