



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Queensland: celebrating National Science Week

A number of leading Queensland life science companies are getting together to celebrate National Science Week – 16 to 24 August 2008.

Queensland's peak industry representative organisation – Queensland Clinical Trials Network Inc. (QCTN) will host a morning tea as part of the week on Wednesday 20 August.

Several industry entities will be attending the morning tea including Clinical Network Services (CNS), ERA Consulting (Australia), Emphron Informatics and VenturePro.

National Science Week is designed to recognise the importance of science in everyday life, commend achievements in the field and encourage interest in the industry.

Science is a critical industry dedicated to advancing our knowledge in several areas. A number of Australian's who have made significant contributions in the industry have even gone on to win Nobel Prizes – including Barry Marshall and Robin Warren for their discovery of a bacterium and its role in gastritis and peptic ulcer disease.

With National Science Week now in its 11th year, it is also important to recognise that over these past 11 years, more than \$3 billion has been invested by the Queensland Government in life sciences R&D through its Smart State Strategy.

QCTN Chief Executive Officer, Mr Mario Pennisi said that industry is dependent on life sciences in many vital areas – from development of new medicines to cleaner fuels.

"Queensland has much to offer on the world-stage as the State that is a key centre in the provision of health biotechnology and related services in the Asia-Pacific region" said Mario Pennisi – QCTN's CEO.

He went on to say "National Science Week provides a platform for Queenslanders to be recognised for their capabilities, and latest innovative developments, and provides a unique opportunity to interact, collaborate and exchange ideas which leads to new initiatives and partnerships."

About QCTN

QCTN is based in Queensland and is a not-for-profit, incorporated association of Queensland based, life sciences research organisations and related entities. QCTN itself does not conduct any form of clinical research.

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As a primary point of contact for domestic and international organisations seeking to undertake preclinical and clinical research in Australia, QCTN helps identify and connect sponsor organisations with the appropriate Queensland research institutions, hospitals and other life sciences service providers.

For further information about the activities of QCTN, please visit www.qctn.com.au or contact QCTN on 07 3331 3999 or email info@qctn.com.au

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