

## **Spinomix announces appointment of Dr. Peter Hirth to its Board of Directors**

- Track record as one of biopharmaceutical sector's most successful drug developers and CEOs
- Experience and network to guide Swiss start-up through to commercial maturity

**Lausanne, Switzerland, 11 June 2014**, Spinomix SA today announced that K. Peter Hirth, Ph.D., who has been an investor in the company since 2013, has joined its Board of Directors. Spinomix is a Swiss technology platform company providing innovative sample processing solutions to the life sciences sector. Based at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), the company is building the new gold standard for sample processing of biochemical substances for both research laboratories and human health diagnostics.

“We are delighted that an industry leader such as Dr.Hirth has joined our Board. He has an outstanding track record in the sector and his counsel will prove invaluable as we develop Spinomix towards commercial maturity,” **said Heiner Dreismann, Ph.D., Chairman of the Board.**

“Spinomix has the potential to transform the current industry standards and practice for the processing of biochemical substances by improving the sensitivity and turnaround time for critical biomarkers. This will dovetail into the sector's broad ongoing diagnostic efforts and further support the personalized medicine approaches to improve human health. This is an exciting opportunity to help such an innovative young company optimise its technology and product offerings by building partnerships with the cutting-edge leaders in the life sciences industry,” **commented Dr.Hirth.**

“Spinomix is currently in several discussions with key diagnostics players and life sciences equipment suppliers for the licensing and commercialization of our products MagPhase™ and FibroTrap™. It is a privilege to have somebody of Dr. Hirth's stature to accompany us on this challenging journey,” **stated Nasri Nahas, Chief Executive Officer, ME, MBA.**

### **About K. Peter Hirth, Ph.D.**

Dr. Hirth currently serves as a Board member of KineMed, Kolltan and Alios Biopharma.

From 2001 to 2013 Dr. Hirth served as co-founder and CEO of Plexxikon, Inc., where he built a novel, structure-guided drug discovery platform, which over the last ten years, has brought several new chemical entities (NCEs) into the clinic in a variety of indications. The most advanced therapeutic from this portfolio is a V600E B-raf selective inhibitor that was FDA approved for metastatic melanoma together with a companion diagnostic and is sold under the brand name Zelboraf™. Plexxikon was acquired in April 2011 by Daiichi Sankyo.

Prior to Plexxikon, Dr. Hirth was President of Sugen, where he was instrumental in building the Company from its inception as well as advancing several kinase inhibitors



through clinical trials in oncology including Sutent, which was the first Sugen product to reach the market for renal cell carcinoma. Sugen was acquired by Pharmacia Upjohn in 1999. Prior to Sugen, Dr. Hirth was a Vice President of Research at Boehringer Mannheim where he successfully led the company's erythropoietin program to approval in 1989. The product was sold under the name Recormon.

Before joining Boehringer Mannheim, Dr. Hirth was a research scientist with the Max Planck Institute, following the completion of his post-doctoral work at the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Hirth received his Ph.D. in molecular genetics from Heidelberg University, Germany.

## **About Spinomix SA**

Spinomix is a Swiss technology platform company providing innovative sample processing solutions to the life sciences sector. Based at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), the company is building the new gold standard for sample processing of biochemical substances. Its products capture and extract samples at a quality and efficiency far superior to current practice, thus enabling more efficient diagnostics. The company's main focus is on applications which are critical for treatment decisions in a variety of human diseases. Other applications target markets such as animal health and food safety.

Spinomix' products MagPhase™ and FibroTrap™ improve the sensitivity and time taken to obtain meaningful results from samples that are highly heterogeneous and notoriously difficult to analyse. The company is conducting validation programmes of these products with key market players in research and industry with the goal of developing partnerships for their commercialisation.

Our talented team has proven to be successful working at the interface between industry and academia and we benefit from a renowned Board of Directors with extensive expertise in our technologies, industry and target markets.

Further information is available at our website [www.spinomix.com](http://www.spinomix.com)

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