



## **genOway introduces *StemCellHY*, a new production technology**

**This innovative industrial process, which includes ThromboGenics' proprietary stem cell lines, increases profitability and allows a 20% reduction in development time**

**Lyon, France – January X , 2009** - genOway (ALTERNEXT-NYSE Euronext: ALGEN; ISIN: FR0004053510), the biotechnology company dedicated to the development of genetically modified animal models, announced today the release of its new production technology *StemCellHY* for the creation of genetically modified models. *StemCellHY* has successfully passed the industrial validation and is now used in production.

The main building blocks of this production technology are:

- The bank of rodent embryonic pluripotent stem cells (ES), developed and patented by the Belgian biotech company ThromboGenics NV and now entirely the property of genOway, containing 17 lines of stem cells, embodying 67 000 samples, making it one of the densest and most valuable cell banks on the market.
- Screening automation enabling the genotyping result to be obtained in less than one day with two times less consumables.
- A proprietary technology for gene targeting, enabling the reduction by 66% of the production cost for this step.

With the implementation of this new industrialized process, genOway significantly reduces the development time of its models by 20%, allowing an average 1,5 months reduction time. This acceleration in the development of research tools gives a key advantage to genOway's industrial customers by speeding up their research. In 2009, genOway itself will fully benefit from this new production technology, pursuing improvements and gains of productivity initiated in 2008. Since that time, the company has in fact reduced its development costs and improved its operating margin.

Moreover, within the Stem Cell bank purchased from ThromboGenics, genOway has acquired Embryonic Stem Cells in new genetic backgrounds, which will enable the company to expand its range of animal models. The company anticipates by mid-2010 the market launch of new offerings specifically dedicated to scientists working on metabolic and inflammatory diseases, two therapeutic fields where the need for genetically modified animal models is strongly increasing.

**Alexandre Fraichard, CEO of genOway, declared :** *«StemCellHY is a tremendous growth accelerator for genOway, allowing, at the same time, to generate significant gains in productivity and to provide the pharmaceutical industry with shorter development time. The agreement signed with ThromboGenics provides us with a key asset for this new platform, allowing us to use the most valuable Stem Cell bank. Moreover, this agreement will expand the range of models we can offer targeting key therapeutic areas like metabolic disorders.»*

**Patrik De Haes, CEO of ThromboGenics NV, commented:** *«We are quite pleased to have a high technology company like genOway introduce this innovative production technology based on our Stem Cell bank. These new cell lines, developed from our internal research and offering many applications, are a valuable advance in Stem Cell technology. We consider genOway to be a natural partner for us.»*





### **About genOway**

genOway (ALTERNEXT-NYSE: ALGEN) is a biotechnology Company developing genetically modified and high value added research models for bio-pharmaceutical, chemical, agrochemical and food industries as well as academic research. With a highly qualified scientific personnel, the company has a work force of 60 people and operates in over 22 countries in Europe, Asia, North America, and provides more than 250 customers. genOway is a leader in its market in terms of size and customer portfolio. The Company builds its development on both a broad and exclusive technology platform and a strong intellectual property combining patents and licensing. Taking advantage of the world trend towards outsourcing the production of genetically modified research models, genOway has signed many contracts with leaders of the pharmaceutical industry (Pfizer, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, etc.), and with the most prestigious academic research centers (King's College and the University of Manchester in England, Duke University and the National Institutes of Health in the United States, the Institut Pasteur in France, NGFN and the Max Planck Institutes in Germany, etc.). To strengthen its technological position and benefit from worldwide business partners, genOway has signed strategic alliances with leading companies in their fields of activity: Charles River Laboratories (NYSE: CRL, a worldwide leader in laboratory animals), Invitrogen (NASDAQ : IVGN, world leader provider in molecular biology). For more information please consult [www.genoway.com](http://www.genoway.com).

### **About ThromboGenics**

ThromboGenics is a biotechnology company focused on the discovery and development of biopharmaceuticals for the treatment of eye disease, vascular disease and cancer. The Company's lead product Microplasmin is in Phase III clinical development for the non-surgical treatment of back of the eye diseases. Microplasmin is also being evaluated in Phase II clinical development for additional vitreoretinal indications and as a potential therapy for stroke. ThromboGenics is also developing novel antibody therapeutics in collaboration with BioInvent International; these include TB-402 (Anti-Factor VIII), a long acting anti-coagulant, and TB-403 (anti-PIGF) for cancer.

ThromboGenics has built strong links with the University of Leuven and the Flanders Institute for Biotechnology (VIB) and has exclusive rights to certain therapeutics developed at these institutions. ThromboGenics is headquartered in Leuven, Belgium and has subsidiaries in Dublin, Ireland and New York, U.S. The Company is listed on Eurolist by Euronext Brussels under the symbol THR. More information is available at [www.thrombogénics.com](http://www.thrombogénics.com)

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