



**VASTOX APPOINTS DARREN MILLINGTON AS
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND DIRECTOR**

Oxford, UK, 9 May 2006 - VASTox (AIM: VOX), a leading chemical genomics company, today announces that Darren Millington ACMA, formerly VASTox' Head of Finance, has joined the Board of Directors as Chief Financial Officer. He will continue in his role as Company Secretary.

Mr Millington (30) joined VASTox in April 2005 and has been instrumental in helping the business establish and build support functions alongside VASTox's scientific and commercial successes.

Mr Millington is a Chartered Management Accountant. Having worked in the Audit and Advisory Divisions at Arthur Andersen and later at Deloitte & Touche, he joined IP2IPO plc as Group Financial Controller in 2003. During his time at IP2IPO he gained valuable experience in a broad range of corporate finance activities, as well as being responsible for the management of the accounts function.

At the date of this announcement, Mr Millington holds options over 150,000 ordinary shares of 1p each in the capital of the Company ("Ordinary Shares"), which were granted prior to his appointment as Chief Financial Officer with exercise prices equal to the market value of an Ordinary Share on the date of grant. Mr Millington also holds 1,111 Ordinary Shares at the date of his appointment.

Mr Millington currently has no other directorships and has not been a director of a company within the preceding five years.

Steven Lee, PhD, CEO of VASTox said: "I am pleased to announce Darren's appointment to the Board of VASTox. He has made a significant contribution across a number of areas in the business over the past year. Together with the recent announcement of Richard Storer as Chief Scientific Officer, we are building a high calibre Executive team to accelerate value growth."

VASTox plc confirms that, save for the above, there are no other matters under paragraph (g) of Schedule 2 of the AIM rules to be announced.

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About VASTox plc

VASTox is a chemical genomics technology company that discovers and develops proprietary novel drugs and provides services to the pharmaceutical industry. The company's most advanced drug development programme is focused on developing a new treatment for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy based on the up-regulation of utrophin. A second drug development programme for Spinal Muscular Atrophy is also progressing rapidly. VASTox has two additional programmes focused on osteoarthritis and tuberculosis that are expected to be out-licensed prior to entering the clinic.

The company's technology platform, which uses zebrafish and fruitflies, has the potential to dramatically decrease the time and cost of drug discovery and development. This is because using whole organisms allows it to carry out high volume, high content screening that delivers data which is highly predictive of the efficacy and toxicity of potential drug compounds in humans. VASTox is growing revenues based on marketing its unique technology platform and its chemistry expertise.

VASTox was formed in January 2003 from the University of Oxford, by some of the UK's foremost scientists who have taken a highly creative approach to the problems involved in drug discovery and who have a proven record in delivering technological excellence. The company listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange in October 2004.

Further information about the company may be accessed at the VASTox website:

www.vastox.com

This document contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "seeks", "believes", "estimates", "expects" and similar references to future periods, or by the inclusion of forecasts or projections.

Forward-looking statements are based on the Company's current expectations and assumptions regarding our business, the economy and other future conditions. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, by their nature, they are subject to inherent uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. The Company's actual results may differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. The Company cautions you therefore that you should not rely on any of these forward-looking statements as statements of historical fact or as guarantees or assurances of future performance. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include [factors included in this presentation] and regional, national, global political, economic, business, competitive, market and regulatory conditions.