

VASTox plc
(“VASTox” or “the Company”)

**VASTox SIGNS TWO DRUG DISCOVERY COLLABORATION DEALS WORTH A
COMBINED €1 MILLION**

**Collaborations with Rottapharm and an unnamed European biotech company
leverage on VASTox’s zebrafish chemical genomics platform and medicinal
chemistry expertise**

Oxford, UK, 13 February 2007 – VASTox plc (AIM: VOX) announced today that it has signed two long-term chemical genomics deals with a combined value of €1 million. The first deal sees VASTox entering into a long-term drug discovery and toxicology screening collaboration with the multinational pharmaceutical company Rottapharm S.p.A. The total deal is worth up to €365,000 over 12 months, which includes an upfront payment and research funding milestones.

Under the terms of this deal, VASTox and Rottapharm will collaborate in the generation of a screening model for osteoarthritis that will test potential drug candidates and therefore accelerate Rottapharm’s unique discovery programme. In addition, VASTox will provide predictive safety and toxicology testing using its proprietary ‘vivo™’ technology platform, which will ensure, early in the discovery process, that only high quality compounds are selected. This deal follows a successful pilot project in 2006 that used VASTox’s unique technology platform and high content screening experience and expertise.

The second deal announced today is with an unnamed European biotechnology company and will use VASTox’s medicinal chemistry expertise and experience in a research collaboration to support one of the client’s drug discovery programmes. This deal will see VASTox paid up to €635,000 over 10 months and was secured after VASTox had successfully completed previous service contracts with the company.

Commenting on the contracts, VASTox’s CEO Steven Lee, PhD, said “These are two very significant deals for VASTox as they further underline the benefits that our chemical genomics technology platform brings to drug discovery and highlight our strong expertise in chemistry. These attributes and capabilities are gaining increasing industry recognition and consequently leading to a greater awareness of and interest in VASTox’s unique drug discovery and service offerings. Furthermore these long-term partnerships will continue to validate our hybrid business model designed to generate maximum returns from our technology platform and scientific expertise outside our internal drug discovery programmes.”

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About VASTox's zebrafish platform

VASTox's zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) technology platform allows high-volume, high-content screening of small molecule drug candidates. This approach generates *in vivo* data, which can be used to determine key characteristics of potential drug candidates. These data are highly predictive of efficacy and toxicity in humans, reducing the risk of failure in discovery programmes, while having the potential to dramatically decrease the time and cost of drug discovery and development.

VASTox has developed a wide range of validated toxicology screens, the 'vivo™' screening platform to assess compound safety and potential side effects. These include:

- Acute toxicity
- Cardiotoxicity
- Acute toxicity
- Hepatotoxicity
- Myelotoxicity
- Genotoxicity

About Rottapharm S.p.A.

Rottapharm S.p.A. is an Italian pharmaceutical and healthcare company which was founded in 1961 by Luigi Rovati, a pharmacology professor at the University of Pavia. The Company currently employs over 1400 people and has its headquarters and central research facility in Monza, Italy. With sales in 2005 of €279 million, Rottapharm has a broad product portfolio across a range of therapeutic areas including rheumatology, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, respiratory and central nervous system disorders as well as women's health. The company has manufacturing sites in Ireland, Germany, Portugal and Italy and operates globally in over 60 countries.

More information about Rottapharm is available at www.rotta.com

About VASTox plc

VASTox is a chemical genomics biotechnology 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 additional programmes focused on osteoarthritis, cancer, tuberculosis and stem cells 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. The company listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange in October 2004.

Further information about the company is available at 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.