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Contact:

Peer M. Schatz
Chief Financial Officer
QIAGEN N.V.
011 49 2103 892 702
e-mail: p.schatz@QIAGEN.de

Noonan/Russo Communications, Inc.
(212) 696-4455
Barbara Lindheim (investor) ext. 237
Renee Solano (media) ext.227
e-mail: news@nrp-euro.com

QIAGEN INCREASES TECHNOLOGY PORTFOLIO TARGETED AT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS

Hilden, Germany, November 3, 1997 - QIAGEN GmbH, a subsidiary of QIAGEN N.V. (Nasdaq: QGENF) announced today the signing of an agreement with Organon Teknika, B.V. granting QIAGEN a world-wide, non-exclusive license to develop, manufacture, and market products for nucleic acid purification under its 'Boom' patents (US 5,234,809; and corresponding patents or applications). The license allows QIAGEN to sell products including technologies under these patents in all markets and for all applications, with no field-of-use limitations.

Dr. Helge Bastian, Business Unit Manager for Molecular Diagnostics at QIAGEN, said "The 'Boom' patents are an ideal complement to QIAGEN's own platform of patented technologies for nucleic acid purification and give us a greater number of sample preparation options. The 'Boom' patent portfolio covers a simple, rapid, and flexible nucleic acid purification technology which in combination with technologies proprietary to QIAGEN can create a highly efficient and automatable solution package for a range of nucleic acid purification applications for molecular diagnostic purposes. This license broadens QIAGEN's innovative technology platform, enhancing our ability to develop the most suitable product for the market. It will accelerate QIAGEN's development of fully automated DNA and RNA sample prep systems for use in molecular diagnostics, in research, and in other commercial market segments." Bastian continued, "This is a further very significant expansion of QIAGEN's technology portfolio targeted primarily at molecular diagnostic applications. I am confident that this license will help QIAGEN to expand and strengthen its leading market position in nucleic acid purification and will greatly contribute to QIAGEN´s future growth opportunities."

"The patented technology of Organon Teknika is complementary to many of QIAGEN technologies for sample preparation. This agreement expands QIAGEN's proprietary position significantly, and allows us to take full advantage of our broad technology base to develop the best products for high-potential applications," commented Dr. Rainer Wessel, Patent and Licensing Manager for QIAGEN.

Organon Teknika B. V., a business unit of Akzo Nobel N. V., The Netherlands, specializes in R&D, manufacturing and marketing of advanced systems and products for hospitals, laboratories and blood banks. It has leading positions in the fields of neuromuscular management during surgery, nucleic acid diagnostics, microbiology, immuno-diagnostics and hemostasis. Organon Teknika is active in a large number of countries and has 2,500 employees.

QIAGEN N.V., a Netherlands holding company with subsidiaries in Germany, the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, France, Australia and Canada, believes it is the world's leading provider of innovative enabling technologies and products for the separation and purification of nucleic acids. The Company has developed a comprehensive portfolio of more than 250 proprietary, consumable products for nucleic acid separation and purification, nucleic acid amplification, as well as automated instrumentation and related services. QIAGEN's products are sold in more than 35 countries throughout the world to academic research markets and also to leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. In addition, the Company is positioning its products for sale into developing commercial markets, including DNA sequencing and genomics, nucleic acid-based molecular diagnostics, and genetic vaccination and gene therapy.

Certain of the statements contained in this news release may be considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. To the extent that any of the statements contained herein relating to QIAGEN's products and markets are forward-looking, such statements are based on current expectations that involve a number of uncertainties and risks. Such uncertainties and risks include, but are not limited to, risks associated with management of growth and international operations (including the effects of currency fluctuations), variability of operating results, the commercial development of the DNA sequencing and genomics market, nucleic acid-based diagnostics market, and genetic vaccination and gene therapy markets, competition, rapid or unexpected changes in technologies, fluctuations in demand for QIAGEN's products (including seasonal fluctuations), and the Company's ability to identify and develop new products and to differentiate its products from competitors. For further information, refer to the discussion in QIAGEN's Registration Statement on Form F-3 and reports that the Company has filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

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