

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Mitsui Makes Equity Investment in Correlogic Systems**

*Company's US Proteomics Investment to Bring Groundbreaking Disease Detection Tests To Japanese Market*

BETHESDA, MD – February 10, 2004 – Mitsui & Co., Ltd. announced today that it has made an undisclosed equity investment in Correlogic Systems, Inc., a clinical proteomics company that has pioneered the use of pattern recognition in the diagnosis of cancer and other diseases. The two companies have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to explore the possible creation of a Japan-based joint venture for deployment of Correlogic's diagnostic testing technology.

The agreement with Correlogic marks an important investment in US-based proteomics for Mitsui's Bio-business Development Department of Performance Chemicals Unit, which handles more than 2,000 products that are in use in a wide range of applications in the world today. While conducting its operations globally, the Unit is actively participating in bio-business development, concentrating on cutting-edge biotechnology businesses.

“Mitsui is committed to developing molecular diagnostic business especially for cancer, and is constantly searching for business partners to expand this core business interest,” said Ryu Ogawa, Chief Operating Officer of the Performance Chemicals Unit of Mitsui. “Correlogic Systems developed an innovative technology that would pave the way for early detection of cancer, and our investment in Correlogic Systems is a perfect strategic fit for Mitsui.”

Mitsui first became aware of Correlogic in February 2002, when Correlogic's joint research, published in *The Lancet*, revealed that the Correlogic approach and technology successfully detected all of the ovarian cancer patients in a study of 216 women, including cancers that were still in Stage 1. While Correlogic's ovarian cancer test originally sparked Mitsui's investment, it was the potential of Correlogic's technology to detect a range of disease states that made it so attractive to Mitsui. Mitsui will be exploring the validation of the technology with Japanese patients for a number of disease states, including cancers most prevalent in Japan.

“Cancer takes the lives of millions of people each year, but with earlier detection those numbers can be significantly reduced,” said Peter J. Levine, president and chief executive officer of Correlogic Systems, Inc. “Whether we are talking about ovarian and prostate cancers in the US, or stomach and liver cancers in Japan, I envision our technology, being applied across a wide range of disease states. In fact, I am absolutely convinced that five years from now, people all over the world will be routinely screened with this technology for a wide range of diseases—and their lives will be saved.”

Levine concluded, “I am very pleased at the prospect of working with Mitsui, one of Japan’s foremost corporations, toward developing the application of this technology in Japan.”

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#### **About Correlogic Systems, Inc.**

Correlogic Systems, Inc. is a Bethesda, Maryland-based clinical proteomics company that has developed proprietary pattern recognition and pattern discovery software and laboratory processes with a wide variety of applications for biomarker discovery, disease detection, and new drug discovery. The technology’s first application has been in the field of proteomics – the study of human proteins – with concentration on the early detection of prostate, ovarian, breast and other cancers. Correlogic has entered into licensing agreements with Laboratory Corporation of America and Quest Diagnostics, Inc. for the North American market development and commercialization of a diagnostic test applying Correlogic’s technology to ovarian cancer. Visit Correlogic Systems at [www.correlogic.com](http://www.correlogic.com).

#### **About Mitsui & Co., Ltd.**

Mitsui & Co., Ltd. a leading international trading house with an extensive global network, is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. In the 2002 world’s largest corporations lists, Mitsui & Co., Ltd. is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in “The International 500” by Forbes magazine and 13<sup>th</sup> in “The Global 500” by Fortune magazine. Mitsui has 10 offices and over 90 consolidated subsidiaries and joint ventures across the U.S. Mitsui USA prides itself for its consistent net export performance (exports over imports) which contributes positively to the U.S. trade balance.

#### **Cautionary Statement:**

Certain statements contained in this release are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on management’s current expectations and are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. Actual results could differ materially due to, among other things, operational and other difficulties associated with integrating acquired business, general business conditions, competition among managed care companies, rising health costs, trends in medical loss ratios, health care reform, delay in receipt of regulatory and other approvals for pending transactions and other regulatory issues.