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## **STRESSGEN APPOINTS VICE PRESIDENTS OF REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Company Increases Depth of Senior Management Team to Accommodate Pipeline Development and Roche Partnership**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 10, 2002

**San Diego, California USA** - Stressgen Biotechnologies Corporation (TSX:SSB) announced today the U.S. appointments of Howard T. Holden, Ph.D., as an officer with the position of Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance, and Bruce M. Berger, M.D., to the position of Vice President of Clinical Development. Dr. Holden, reporting to Stressgen's President and CEO Daniel L. Kopolinski, will provide leadership for all regulatory and compliance functions on a global basis. Dr. Berger, reporting to Stressgen's Senior Vice President of Clinical Development Dr. John R. Neefe, will oversee the medical aspects of the clinical development of Stressgen's lead product, HspE7, as well as other heat shock protein (Hsp) fusion candidates in the pipeline.

"I'm extremely pleased to welcome Drs. Holden and Berger to Stressgen," said Daniel L. Kopolinski, President and Chief Executive Officer of Stressgen. "In keeping with Stressgen's transition to a late-stage company, their extensive expertise will be invaluable to our senior management team, our partnership with Roche to develop and commercialize HspE7, and our ability to expand our proprietary Hsp fusion technology pipeline."

Dr. Holden joins Stressgen from Ligand Pharmaceuticals in San Diego where he has served as Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance and a member of Ligand's senior management team since 1992. Dr. Holden joined Ligand as the first employee in Regulatory Affairs and Compliance, building the department over a nine-year period. During his tenure, he provided oversight for the successful approval of three New Drug Applications, a Biologics License Application, a New Drug Submission (Canada) and two Marketing Authorization Applications (Europe). Dr. Holden orchestrated two Food and Drug Administration Advisory Committee meetings for Ligand, as well as numerous meetings with health authorities in the U.S., Canada, and several European countries on development/manufacturing strategies and submission requirements. He also provided oversight for all regulatory filings, advertising/promotion review, manufacturing compliance, and provided regulatory strategy for the expansion of development programs into additional indications.

Prior to joining Ligand, Dr. Holden was Senior Director, Worldwide Regulatory Affairs at Parke-Davis Pharmaceutical Research Division of the Warner-Lambert Company. Dr. Holden also spent 14 years at the National Cancer Institute conducting research in tumor immunology and providing liaison with the Food and Drug Administration for biotechnology products. He received a Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Miami and a B.A. in zoology from Drew University.

Dr. Bruce Berger has more than 20 years of experience in drug development in all phases of clinical development, including safety surveillance, and multiple therapeutic areas. Most recently Dr. Berger was U.S. Head of Clinical Studies Pharmacovigilance and worldwide Therapeutic Department Head for Internal Medicine for Sanofi-Synthelabo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Prior to that, Dr. Berger served as Senior Director of Clinical Research at Sterling Research Group in New York and Pennsylvania until Sanofi's acquisition of Sterling. Dr. Berger has led many clinical development teams including teams for anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer agents and has been responsible for several multinational new drug and product license applications. Dr. Berger is active in several professional and scientific organizations and recently served on the organizing committee for a multi-company initiative sponsored by the International Life Sciences Institute to study the correlation of preclinical safety findings with adverse effects in humans. Dr. Berger, who is dual-Board-certified in Internal Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology, received his medical degree from Tulane University and completed his Internal Medicine residency at the Nassau County Medical Center in New York.

#### About Stressgen Biotechnologies Corporation

Stressgen, a biopharmaceutical company, focuses on the discovery, development and commercialization of innovative heat shock protein-based immunotherapeutics. The Company is developing a broad range of products for the treatment of viral infections and related cancers. In addition to developing HspE7 for diseases caused by human papillomavirus ("HPV"), the Company has a program to evaluate stress protein fusions in hepatitis B and has initiated research studies to evaluate its heat shock protein technology in the treatment of hepatitis C, herpes simplex and HIV. Stressgen is also an internationally recognized supplier of research products used by scientists worldwide for the study of cellular stress, apoptosis, oxidative stress and neurobiology.

In June 2002, Stressgen announced a Collaboration Agreement with Roche for the co-development and global commercialization of HspE7, Stressgen's lead product candidate for HPV-related diseases. HPV is one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases, estimated to infect over 50 percent of the sexually active population. There are 5.5 million new cases of genital HPV infection diagnosed per year in the U.S. alone, including over 1 million cases of genital warts. In addition to genital warts, genital HPV infection can cause cervical cancer and a variety of precancerous conditions, including anal and cervical dysplasia.

*This news release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding executive leadership and the addition of new products. The ultimate results could differ materially from those implied by the forward-looking statements due to factors including evolving personnel requirements relating to our partnership with Roche and uncertainties inherent in the development of pharmaceuticals. These and other risks are more fully discussed in our periodic filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and Canadian securities regulatory authorities.*

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