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NextGen Group PLC, (LSE:NGG) the Cambridge, UK, based "gene-to-protein" company and Kemp Biotechnologies Inc. (Kemp) of Maryland, US, who provide expertise in cell culture, protein expression, and protein purification on a fee - for - service basis today announce that they have entered into a formal Commercial Alliance agreement.

Under the terms of the Alliance, both parties will co-market each others fee for service offerings which will allow the combined marketing and delivery of a full range of services. These will cover the entire Gene to characterised and validated Protein research market on an International basis. Significantly, the contract manufacturing capability provided by Kemp will allow the Group to offer pure proteins in the significant quantities required for pre-clinical research. This capability takes NextGen a major step further along the route to being able to offer a "one stop shop" to the pharmaceutical industry. The Alliance will be able to provide new and fully characterised soluble active proteins derived from pre determined gene sequences associated with disease modification in any milligram to multi-gram quantities whether for structure determination, screening, characterisation or pre clinical research studies. Additionally, the agreement also allows the transfer of Kemp's advanced transient mammalian expression technology to NextGen, a key goal of the 2007 business plan, further developing the large range of protein expression systems currently offered by NextGen.

Commenting on the agreement Dr. Christopher Kemp, President of Kemp Biotechnologies Inc. said: "The commercial agreement between NextGen and Kemp brings together leaders in complementary areas of protein production". Dr. Kemp added that "NextGen's abilities in producing and screening multiple constructs and selecting the best expresser at a small scale feeds seamlessly into our ability to scale up in *E.coli*, insect cell or mammalian hosts for optimal protein supply. The combined marketing approach will give our existing and new customers the ability to determine the optimal construct, host and conditions to provide soluble, active 'fit for purpose' purified proteins in any quantities they require to pursue their own development goals."

Dr James Heffernan, CEO of NextGen Group PLC said: "Since the launch of **contractexpress**TM in October 2005, we have been reacting to the changing needs of our customers and broadening the range of services we offer through acquisitions or Alliances such as this. Together, NextGen and Kemp can now provide our customers with a unique, comprehensive offering from gene synthesis, protein production and purification to advanced protein characterisation. Our partnership approach to customer relations has ensured that we have delighted our current customers and will continue to attract new customers as our reputation in this field grows. Through our own considerable investment in manpower and the acquisition of PRS we have built a rapidly growing, comprehensive fee for service business which delivers exceptional quality service at a competitive price point. With the addition of services offered by Kemp, we believe our ability to generate additional revenues from existing customers and reach new clients will be significantly increased " .

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Notes to Editors:

NextGen Group PLC (LSE:NGG) is a provider of expert systems, services and reagents focused on enabling enhanced access to and understanding of the role of proteins in diagnosis and drug discovery. The expert systems are built out of NextGen's understanding of biological sciences and combine robotics, advanced engineering and rules based software in systems that range from partial to fully automated. NextGen also uses its systems and instruments to provide fee-for-service products to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry as well as those in academic research. For details visit www.nextgensciences.com.

Kemp Biotechnologies, Inc. a Pelican Life Sciences Company, has supported the research of public and private sector laboratories by providing expertise in cell culture, protein expression, and protein purification on a contract basis since 1992. Our clients achieve increased cell yield and protein expression with the added bonus of reduced recovery costs through the development of custom media formulations. Kemp Biotechnologies is equipped to grow cells in stirred tanks, hollow fibers, roller bottles, perfusion bioreactors, Centritech System, 4-station optimizer, and Nunc Cell Factories. Using proprietary bioreactor designs, Kemp Biotechnologies has gained an excellent reputation for increasing both cell yield and expression for baculovirus and mammalian cells. For details visit www.kempbiotech.com.

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