

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Dr. George Clark
919-688-4804 or 1-888-DIOXINS
GeorgeClark@dioxins.com
www.dioxins.com

Hiyoshi Corporation Appointed XDS's Sole Agent in Japan

Durham, NC and Shiga, Japan – February 4, 2003

Xenobiotic Detection Systems, Inc. (XDS) announced that the Hiyoshi Corporation of Shiga, Japan, has been appointed the company's sole agent for Japan.

Hiyoshi will now be responsible for all aspects of XDS's patented (CALUX[®]) **C**hemical **A**ctivated **L**uciferase Gene **E**xpression bioassay within Japan. The corporation will market and license the dioxin detection technology to Japanese laboratories and industries. In addition, Hiyoshi will provide all of the training to laboratory staff and will assist new licensees in establishing and equipping their laboratories.

XDS first licensed the Hiyoshi Corporation to use their technology in June of 2000. Since then, Hiyoshi has become an international leader in using the CALUX[®] technology. The corporation has extensively promoted the bioassay and published a number of scientific research papers on using this technology.

Dr. George Clark, President of XDS, announced the agreement on October 30th saying, "We continue to be impressed with the leadership and research of the Hiyoshi Corporation. Since our initial agreement in 2000, they have become not only valuable partners in this enterprise, but also trusted friends. Their knowledge of the Japanese market and their expertise with our dioxin detection technology makes this an excellent partnership. We are looking forward to working together at this new level."

President of Hiyoshi, Mr. Toshihko Suzuki concurred with Clark saying, "We are pleased to be working with XDS and now able to offer this splendid technology directly to Japan. We see the CALUX[®] technology as having great benefit as we work to make our country a more safe and toxin-free environment. This bioassay will enable our industries and laboratories to monitor the environment on a frequent and cost effective basis with technology that provides extremely sensitive dioxin detection levels."

Founded in 1995, XDS technology was pioneered by Michael Denison, a toxicologist at the University of California at Davis. The bioassay contains mammalian cell lines genetically engineered to contain the gene for luciferase, an enzyme fireflies use to produce light. In the patented CALUX[®] process, firefly luciferase is produced when dioxin-like chemicals are present. The process provides detection of dioxin and dioxin-like compounds at detection levels below one part per trillion, and is 40% to 70% less expensive than traditional analyses.

Further development of the CALUX[®] technology was supported by Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants from the National Institute of Health.

###

For more information: Call 1-888-D-I-O-X-I-N-S or visit www.dioxins.com.

® "Registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office"