

Photo Release -- Harvard Bioscience's Bioreactor Grows a Synthetic Tissue-Engineered Trachea Used in World's First Successful Human Transplantation

HOLLISTON, Mass., July 7, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Harvard Bioscience, Inc. (Nasdaq:HBIO), a global developer, manufacturer and marketer of a broad range of tools to advance life science research and regenerative medicine, announces that its "InBreath" bioreactor was used for the world's first successful transplantation of a synthetic tissue engineered windpipe. For first time in history, a patient has been given a new trachea made from a synthetic scaffold seeded with his own stem cells in Harvard Bioscience's bioreactor. The patient, a 36-year old man who had been suffering from late stage tracheal cancer, that before this surgery would have been inoperable, is well on the way to a full recovery and will be discharged from the hospital tomorrow.

The operation was performed on June 9, 2011 at Karolinska University Hospital in Huddinge, Stockholm, by Professor Paolo Macchiarini of Karolinska University Hospital and Karolinska Institutet, and colleagues. Professor Macchiarini led an international team including Prof. Alexander Seifalian from University College in London, England, who designed and built the nanocomposite tracheal scaffold, and Harvard Bioscience, who produced a specifically designed bioreactor used to seed the scaffold with the patient's own stem cells. The cells were grown on the scaffold inside the bioreactor for two days before transplantation into the patient. Because the cells used to regenerate the trachea were the patient's own, there has been no rejection of the transplant, and the patient is not taking immunosuppressive drugs.

David Green, President of Harvard Bioscience, commented, "We congratulate Professor Macchiarini and the entire scientific and surgical team on achieving this landmark in the history of regenerative medicine. This new type of surgery is likely to greatly expand the patient population that is treatable with organs grown in Harvard Bioscience's bioreactor. Previously, our bioreactor had been used to seed a patient's stem cells onto a donor trachea, so treatment was limited by the supply of donor organs. Now that our bioreactor has proven it can be used to seed a patient's cells onto a synthetic (i.e., manmade) scaffold, patients will not need to wait for a suitable donor trachea to become available."

Harvard Bioscience's strategy in regenerative medicine is: to create devices not discover pharmaceuticals as this reduces risk compared to a therapeutics company; to build these devices on its existing technologies and brands as this reduces the investment needed to get to market; and to develop devices with a significant disposable revenue stream as this is both clinically desirable and allows us to participate on a per-procedure basis and not just on the sale of an instrument. We estimate the nascent market for regenerative medicine devices could potentially grow to hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

Photos accompanying this release are available at

<http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=9958>

<http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=9961>

Harvard Bioscience's regenerative medicine tools can be found at the following links:

<http://www.harvardbioscience.com/regenMed.cfm>

Note that Harvard Bioscience's regenerative medicine products are currently for research use only and are not for use in humans unless proper local investigational device regulations have been followed.

About Harvard Bioscience

www.harvardbioscience.com.

The Harvard Bioscience, Inc. logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=6426>

Forward-looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. You can identify these statements by our use of such words as "will," "guidance," "objectives," "optimistic," "potential," "future," "expect," "plans," "estimates," "continue," "drive," "strategy," "crucial," "potential," "potentially," "growth," "long-term," "projects," "projected," "produce," "intends," "believes," "goals," "sees," "seek," "develop," "possible," "new," "enabling," "emerging," "opportunity," "pursue" and similar expressions that do not relate to historical matters. Forward-looking statements in this press release may

include, but are not limited to, statements or inferences about the Company's or management's beliefs or expectations, the field of regenerative medicine, opportunities or potential opportunities in the field of regenerative medicine, the Company's business strategy, the positioning of the Company for growth, the market demand and opportunity for the Company's current products or products it is developing or intends to develop, and the Company's plans, objectives and intentions that are not historical facts.

These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the Company's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include the Company's failure to successfully expand its product offerings, introduce new products or commercialize new technologies, including in the field of regenerative medicine, decreased demand for the Company's products, including products in the field of regenerative medicine, due to changes in our customers' needs, our ability to obtain regulatory approvals, including FDA approval, for our products, including any products in the field of regenerative medicine, the current size or anticipated size of the regenerative medicine market, the existence and size of opportunities in the regenerative medicine market, our financial position, general economic outlook or other circumstances, overall economic trends, our ability to manage our growth, competition from our competitors, technological changes resulting in our products becoming obsolete, our ability to protect our intellectual property and operate without infringing on others' intellectual property, potential costs of any lawsuits to protect or enforce our intellectual property, research funding levels from endowments at our university customers, plus factors described under the heading "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 or described in the Company's other public filings. The Company's results may also be affected by factors of which the Company is not currently aware. The Company may not update these forward-looking statements, even though its situation may change in the future, unless it has obligations under the federal securities laws to update and disclose material developments related to previously disclosed information.

For investor inquiries, please call (508) 893-8066. Press releases may be found on our web site, <http://www.harvardbioscience.com>.

The photo is also available at Newscom, www.newscom.com, and via AP PhotoExpress.

CONTACT: Harvard Bioscience, Inc.

David Green, President

dgreen@harvardbioscience.com

Chane Graziano, CEO

cgraziano@harvardbioscience.com

Tom McNaughton, CFO

tmcnaughton@harvardbioscience.com

508 893 8999

Fax: 508 429 8478

The patient's own stem cells being seeding onto the scaffold in the bioreactor.

The graft immediately prior to implant and after two days of cell growth.