

Specific Technologies Announces that Professor David Alland Joins its Scientific Advisory Board

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California, April 5, 2016 -- Specific Technologies, which has developed a new paradigm combining detection with ID of microorganisms growing in culture, is very pleased to announce that David Alland, M.D., Professor and Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, Director, Center for Emerging Pathogens, and Associate Dean for Clinical Research, has joined Specific's Scientific Advisory Board effective February 1, 2016. Dr. Alland is a widely recognized expert in the detection and characterization of *M. tuberculosis* and its mechanisms of antibiotic resistance. His laboratory is responsible for development of the molecular beacon assay used in the Cepheid Xpert™ TB/Rif cartridge, the world's leading molecular diagnostic for the detection and characterization of TB. This assay may be the world's most widely utilized infectious disease molecular diagnostic, and is substantially responsible for driving the placement of what is now 10,000 Cepheid instruments worldwide.

"David's laboratory has made profound contributions to medicine and humanity by developing the assay at the heart of the world's foremost diagnostic for TB, an illness that remains one of the world's largest causes of death, with 9.6M new cases and 1.5M deaths in 2014. He has proven capacity to drive cutting edge research into practical, affordable diagnostic tests that have been deployed on the largest scale," said Paul A. Rhodes, Ph.D., Specific Technologies CEO. "We welcome David's invaluable advice and guidance as we harness a new paradigm combining the detection with the identification of microorganisms at the strain-level ID during culture. David's grasp of both the scientific state of the art in characterizing microorganisms and their antibiotic resistance characteristics with his unique practical experience developing diagnostic assays used daily on thousands of instruments worldwide epitomizes the combination of scientific, medical and commercial perspective we look for in our Scientific Advisory Board partners."

"I believe that Specific Technologies is developing one of the most promising and potentially most transformative new paradigms for diagnostics that I have seen. The unique combination of low cost, simplicity and information richness promises a paradigm shift and will in all likelihood lead to substantial improvements in how bacteria are cultured, species identified and strains are typed. It could easily replace all existing culture-based systems, providing much faster time to results as well as a novel profile of strain-level ID, thereby enabling a new and desperately needed means of surveillance of resistant infection."

About the SpecID System

During growth in culture, bacteria produce small molecule volatile metabolites unique to their species and strain. Utilizing an inexpensive printed chemical sensor array to obtain a fingerprint that combines detection and identification into a simple, automated single step, the novel SpecID system identifies microorganism species and strain from a phenotypic metabolomic signature obtained during growth. The fully automated system will streamline lab work flow, reduce costs, and substantially shorten the time from sample arrival to the Gram status and species ID determination, truly lowering costs while improving patient care by speeding sample-to-answer in blood culture and soon other clinically important samples including TB and other Mycobacteria.

About Specific Technologies

Specific Technologies has developed *in vitro* diagnostic systems for rapid identification of cells at the strain level, and is applying this fundamental new platform to the detection and characterization of

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microorganisms during culture. The company's unique, patented metabolomic signature technology leverages a low-cost printed chemical colorimetric sensor array to identify cell type down to the strain level. Specific Technologies is located in Mountain View, CA.

For additional information, please visit www.specifictechnologies.net.

Corporate Contact:

Email: press@specifictechnologies.net