



**8 September 2008**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**ES Cell International Announces Partnership with Large Pharma  
for assessment of GMP-Grade Stem Cell Lines**

**Singapore, 8 September 2008** - ES Cell International Pte Ltd (ESI) has entered into an agreement with a prominent international Pharmaceutical company to assess ESI's proprietary GMP-grade human embryonic stem cell (hESCs) lines. The pharmaceutical company will be evaluating the lines for stem cell applications and has an option to acquire a certain line. Identity and terms of the agreement are not disclosed.

ESI has been amongst the leaders in the field of embryonic stem cell technology for several years. The company recently generated the world's first human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) that have been derived using the principles of current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP). ESI has several of these cGMP lines and details were published in the November 2007 issue of *Cell Stem Cell*.

This agreement marks a crucial and important milestone for ESI and indicates that these new cell lines, generated using cGMP principles, hold great promise and potential as key components in the development of hESC-based therapies and/or in the drug discovery process. As momentum builds up around the utilization of stem cells by biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, ESI believes that these cGMP-grade cells will play an important role in the eventual translation of hESC-based research to therapeutic applications in humans.

Further enquires regarding these cell lines can be made with ESI.

### **About ES Cell International (ESI)**

ESI aims to be the leading developer of human embryonic stem cell technologies for research and commercial applications. The company owns six of the 21 hES cell lines currently listed on the US National Institute of Health (NIH) Stem Cell Registry. ES Cell International Pte Ltd was incorporated in Singapore in July 2000, with investments from Bio\*One Capital Pte Ltd (<http://www.bio1capital.com>), a leading fund management company for biomedical sciences, and ES Cell Australia Ltd (ESCA), an Australian investment consortium. ESI is housed at the Biopolis in Singapore, Asia's biomedical sciences R&D hub. For more info, please contact ESI (<http://www.escellinternational.com>).

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For further information please contact:

ES Cell International Pte Ltd  
Tel No: (65) 6774 9533  
Email: [info@escellinternational.com](mailto:info@escellinternational.com)  
Website : [www.escellinternational.com](http://www.escellinternational.com)