

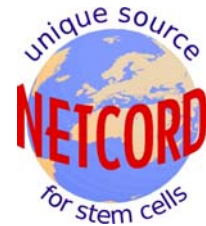
**THERMOGENESIS CORP. AND THE INTERNATIONAL NETCORD FOUNDATION REPORT THE U.S. PATENT OFFICE HAS REJECTED ALL CLAIMS OF PHARMASTEM CORD BLOOD STEM CELL PATENT**

**Rancho Cordova, California and DUSSELDORF, Germany (March 1, 2005) – THERMOGENESIS CORP. (NASDAQ: KOOL)**, a supplier of cryogenic devices used by cord blood banks, and NETCORD, the leading international network of public cord blood banks, today announced that the U.S. Patent Office (PTO) has reexamined U.S. Patent 5,192,553 (Patent '553) and rejected all its claims.

The new action by the U.S. PTO was received by ThermoGenesis and NETCORD with relief and satisfaction. NETCORD's President, Professor Peter Wernet, M.D., Director of the Cord Blood Bank of Duesseldorf University, Germany, declared "The PTO has rejected all the claims in this patent, supporting our belief that the PharmaStem patent is not justified in view of the knowledge existing at the time of its original submission". According to Pablo Rubinstein, M.D., Director of the National Cord Blood Program at the New York Blood Center and Vice President of NETCORD, "The PTO decision will be of great help both to the patients who need blood and immune system stem cell transplantation to overcome lethal disease and to the development of therapies based on umbilical cord blood stem cells, by disallowing an unnecessary drain of resources to pay for unwarranted license fees." Philip Coelho, Chairman & CEO of ThermoGenesis, noted that this PTO decision helps draw attention to the pioneering research by Drs. Ende, Knudtzon and Koike, which anticipated and informed the remarkable therapeutic use of these stem cells which followed.

PharmaStem's patents have been attacked in the U.S. owing to the existence of prior art. In Europe, a single PharmaStem patent that consolidated all claims of both U.S. patents ('553 and 5,004,681 (Patent '681)) had all claims rejected, without further appeal, on April 10, 2003 as a result of actions brought on the same basis before the European Patent Office (EPO) by Netcord, ThermoGenesis and others. In Japan, the same prior art, filed in opposition by ThermoGenesis led to the rejection of all PharmaStem patent claims by the Japanese Patent Office on June 4, 1999.

Of great importance to the EPO and (presumably) PTO cases were prior publications that anticipated the concept of cord blood therapeutic use in bone marrow restoration (Ende and Ende, Virginia Medical Monthly, 1972; 99:276-280), the possibility of using banked cord blood, first suggested in 1974 (Knudtzon, Blood, 1974; 43:357-361) and the same methodology for and results of, freezing cord blood stem cells in 1983 (Koike, Acta Paediatr Japan, 1983;



25:275-283). The initial PharmaStem U.S. Patent '681, was requested in 1987 and the second, '553, in 1988, by PharmaStem's predecessor, the Biocyte Corp.

The Reexamination of '553, requested by the NETCORD organization, opens a new chapter in the history of the controversial patent rights claimed by PharmaStem Therapeutics, Inc. on the invention of a therapeutic composition including human cord blood and the use of cord blood derived cells for marrow reconstitution. Patent '553 is derived from earlier Patent '681, already much reduced in the breadth of its claims as a result of PTO actions stemming from a 1993 reexamination request, which is currently undergoing a second PTO reexamination at the request of ThermoGenesis.

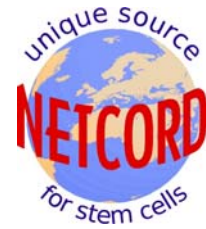
### **About THERMOGENESIS CORP.**

THERMOGENESIS CORP. is a leader in enabling technologies for cell therapeutics. The Company's technology platforms lead the world in their ability to produce biological products from single units of blood. Umbilical cord blood banks are utilizing the Company's BioArchive® System as a critical enabling technology for cryopreserving and archiving of cord blood stem cells for transplant, while its CryoSeal® FS System is used to prepare hemostatic and adhesive surgical sealants from patient blood in about an hour. The Company has been a leading supplier of state-of-the-art Ultra-Rapid Blood Plasma Freezers and Thawers to hospitals and blood banks since 1992.

### **About NETCORD**

The NETCORD Foundation is a network of non-profit public cord blood banks in the U.S.A., Europe, Israel, Japan, and Australia, which have already provided thousands of cord blood stem cell grafts for patients worldwide. NETCORD has established specific quality standards in collaboration with the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) in North America on the collection, cryopreservation, storage, and release of cord blood units.

*The statements contained in this release which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to, certain delays beyond the Company's control with respect to market acceptance of new technologies and products, delays in testing and evaluation of products and other risks detailed from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.*



**For More Information, Contact:**

**THERMOGENESIS CORP.**

**Philip Coelho: (916) 858-5100**

**or visit the web site at [www.thermogenesis.com](http://www.thermogenesis.com)**

**or**

**The International NETCORD Foundation**

**Dr. Peter Wernet: +011-49-211-811-9545**

**Or visit the web site at [www.NETCORD.org](http://www.NETCORD.org)**