

VizX Labs elects chairman, adds high-tech finance & biomedical research executives to board to support continued growth

Seattle, WA – March 8, 2004 - Tom Ranken, CEO and co-founder of VizX Labs, LLC, today announced the addition to its Board of Directors of senior finance executive Bradley E. Sparks, managing director of Sunburst Growth Ventures; and biomedical researcher William P. Hammond, MD, former CEO of The Hope Heart Institute. Sparks was also elected chairman of the board of VizX, maker of Web-based microarray analysis system GeneSifter.Net.

"We are excited to have these distinguished leaders join our team," said Ranken. "Their experience and guidance will be invaluable as we continue to grow the company and execute our unique strategic vision. Our successful deployment of GeneSifter.Net is just the first step toward a dynamic new model life science business integrating biology, software and the Web."

Sparks' career has ranged from VP of major public companies to leading high-tech start-ups through successful IPOs. Currently managing director of Sunburst Growth Ventures, LLC, which specializes in emerging growth biotech companies, he also serves on the board of software company iCIMS and on the Listings Quality Review Panel of NASDAQ, where he previously chaired the Issuers Affairs Committee. Originally trained in engineering at West Point, the former Army Captain most recently was EVP and CFO of e.Spire Communications, Inc. Earlier, Sparks led successful IPOs and other financings as CFO of Web hosting company Digix and of PCS start-up Omnipoint, raising over \$3 billion. As VP, Treasurer and Controller of MCI Communications, he retired over \$3 billion of the company's debt by negotiating \$250 million in sales contracts while raising over \$5 billion. Prior to that he was VP Finance for Fortune 500 company Ryder System, Inc. A registered CPA, he holds an MS in Management from Sloan at MIT.

The second addition to the board, biomedical research executive William P. Hammond, MD, FACP, was most recently President, Medical Director, and CEO of the prestigious Hope Heart Institute in Seattle. Under his leadership the Institute nearly doubled in size as it successfully redirected its scientific mission. Previously, Dr. Hammond was Director of Medical Education at Seattle's Providence Medical Center. Prior to that he conducted core research programs in hematopoiesis and stem cell biology using animal models of genetic disease as a faculty member at the University of Washington School of Medicine. His MD is from Tufts University and his BA from Harvard.

Sparks and Hammond join a board of directors comprised of Ranken; VizX co-founder, bioinformaticist Bob Cottingham; Corus Pharma CEO Bruce Montgomery, MD; and retired CEO of Providence Everett Medical Center, Ray Crerand.

About GeneSifter.Net

GeneSifter.Net helps researchers manipulate, analyze, and make sense of the mountains of genomic data now being made available. Combining power and convenience, GeneSifter.Net is the only Web-based solution for microarray data analysis. This approach means all GeneSifter.Net users always have the latest version along with instant access to the most current gene data. GeneSifter.Net is compatible with any computer running a standard browser and works with virtually any data platform (i.e., spotted cDNA and oligo arrays, as well as Affymetrix GeneChip®). Scientists spend less time with IT technical support and more time on their research. Downloadable graphics, including screenshots of GeneSifter.Net, may be viewed online at http://www.vizlabs.com/downloadable_images.html. Free GeneSifter.Net trial accounts are available by logging onto: www.genesifter.net.

About VizX Labs

VizX Labs operates GeneSifter.Net, the unique Web-based system providing microarray data analysis and knowledge management for life scientists. Its success combining expertise in biology, computing and the Web have gained it a worldwide user base of scientists. GeneSifter.Net subscriptions include support services from the science staff at VizX Labs and access to *Complete Solution*[™] services via the company's partnership with Genome Explorations[™]. VizX Labs also provides custom installations, development, and consulting on a contract basis. To view the VizX Labs newsroom, please visit <http://www.vizlabs.com/newsroom.html>.

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