



News Release

For Immediate Release
Lori Prochaska, Public Relations Manager
402-691-7452
lprochaska@streck.com

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Streck's Technology Instrumental in Development of BD Vacutainer® CD4 Stabilization Blood Collection System

Omaha, NE (August 15, 2006) – Streck, a developer and manufacturer of products for the clinical laboratory, is the developer of the patented cell preservative technology that makes possible a Becton Dickinson Vacutainer® tube targeted for use in Africa. Streck manufactures the preservative incorporated into the BD blood collection tube. The preservative stabilizes patient samples, improves the accuracy of CD4 test results for HIV-infected patients, and helps reduce healthcare costs associated with repeat collection of samples or patient tests.

BD Diagnostics, a segment of BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) on August 12, 2006, announced the availability of the CD4 Stabilization Blood Collection Tube in Africa, where blood specimens are often exposed to temperatures greater than 20-25°C. Streck's technology makes it possible to stabilize CD4 positive cells for up to three days at 37°C, and for up to seven days at 30°C.

The extended storage time at elevated temperatures for whole blood is a critical breakthrough for the clinical laboratory that currently has a limited time frame in which to process samples for flow cytometry. "We are pleased that our technology and collaborative agreement with BD will help improve the care of HIV/AIDS patients in Africa," said Connie Ryan, President of Streck.

Samples collected for CD4 analyses begin to lose their integrity in just a few hours when collected in standard evacuated blood collection tubes. A compromised patient sample can adversely affect the reproducibility and reliability of CD4 analysis. BD needed a way to preserve these blood samples for longer periods and Streck technology provided the solution.

In 2004, Streck introduced Cyto-Chex® BCT, a direct-draw vacuum blood collection tube that contains its patented preservative reagent. Cyto-Chex BCT has the ability to preserve peripheral blood samples for up to seven days, assuring the integrity of CD4/HIV laboratory tests. Product claims were verified in a publication of the *Journal of Immunological Methods* 305 (2005) 107-119. This product is commercially available in the U.S. and internationally.

About Streck, Inc.

Streck is a leading independent developer and manufacturer of hematology and flow cytometry controls for the clinical laboratory. The company owns many patents related to cell stabilization for the clinical laboratory.