

## **Prestigious Academic Facility at Northwestern University Acquires the SyncroPatch 384/768PE**

**Livingston, NJ, USA, October 15, 2014; The SyncroPatch 384/768PE offers the highest throughput in automated patch clamping history. The SyncroPatch 384/768PE focuses on providing both high quality recordings together with broad experimental versatility, two important hallmarks that clearly convinced scientific researchers at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL.**

The SyncroPatch 384/768PE is an advanced robotic screening platform that investigates the effects of chemical compounds and toxins on ion channel function. The instrument supports high quality recordings from up to 768 cells simultaneously, allowing high throughput screening of ligand- and voltage-gated ion channels expressed in cell lines, stem cells or patient-derived cells.

The SyncroPatch 384PE/768 PE combines high versatility and data quality by supporting fast solution exchange, brief compound exposure, internal perfusion and minimal cell usage. The minimal cell usage application improves cost efficiency while allowing screening capabilities with cells of limited availability such as primary cells or otherwise rare and expensive stem cells or patient-derived cells. Entering the market in 2013, the SyncroPatch 384/768PE was rapidly adopted by renowned pharmaceutical companies, contract research organizations and biotech companies, following a strong trend which includes academic research institutions. Academic core facilities have blossomed all across America over the past years, providing researchers with the ability to run high throughput and high content screens for drug or target discovery that not too long ago was strictly exclusive to Big Pharma and biotech companies. By blending the strength and standardization of Big Pharma with the intelligence and acumen of basic research, core facilities can now contend with more ambitious projects that call for larger resources.

Dr. Al George, Professor and Chair of Pharmacology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA says:

*"We are extraordinarily excited about installing the first SyncroPatch 384PE in an academic setting in North America. The enormous throughput, intuitive software and robust liquid handling capabilities along with superior seal quality, stability and high success rates convinced us to purchase the instrument. The SyncroPatch 384PE will enable us to perform detailed high throughput analysis of genetic variants in human ion channels at a previously unobtainable scale, and will form the cornerstone of a new HTS facility we are building. We also look forward to upgrading to 768 wells in the near future."*

Rodolfo Haedo, Vice President Nanion Technologies Inc. continues:

*"The acquisition of the SyncroPatch 384/768PE by the prestigious facility at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine confirms the trend we're experiencing, that the SyncroPatch 384/768PE is receiving a great deal of attention by the finest scientific research laboratories in the world. We are extremely excited to work with Dr. George and the groups involved at Northwestern University as they work at the interface of ion channel pharmacology and channelopathy research. We will finally have the opportunity to see the implementation of many different applications, ranging from hard-core biophysical characterization of patient-specific ion channel mutations, as well as target directed drug screening for personalized medicine, which in turn will continue to push the boundaries of what to expect from a patch clamp-based HTS system."*

### **About Nanion Technologies**

Nanion Technologies is a one-stop-shop for ion channel drug discovery and screening technologies as well as sophisticated research instrumentation. Nanion was founded in 2002 as a spin-off from the Center for Nanoscience (CeNS) of the University of Munich. Nanion's team has developed and successfully established four generations of automated patch clamp instruments for sophisticated and high throughput applications in ion channel research and drug discovery (Port-a-Patch, Patchliner and SyncroPatch product families). Further product lines are for cardiotoxicity screening (CardioExcyte 96), for parallel bilayer recordings (Orbit 16), and for parallel membrane transporter protein recordings (SURFE2R). Recently, Nanion's management team was nominated for the Federal President's Award for Technology and Innovation (Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2014).

### **Contact**

Rodolfo Haedo, VP Nanion Technologies Inc., Phone: 1-888-9NANION, Email: [info@naniontech.com](mailto:info@naniontech.com), [www.nanion.de](http://www.nanion.de)  
Press Contacts: Cecilia Farre, Marketing Director, Phone: +49 89 2189 97973 Email: [Cecilia@nanion.de](mailto:Cecilia@nanion.de)

### **About Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine**

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, founded in 1859, attracts talented individuals to its faculty, staff, and student body through its cutting-edge research initiatives, superb clinical affiliates, global outlook, and innovative curriculum. Located in the heart of Chicago's Magnificent Mile, Feinberg has built a national reputation for excellence through a strong history of collaborative, interdisciplinary medical education and research, and along with Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Northwestern Medical Group is part of the premier academic medical center known as Northwestern Medicine. Feinberg stands out among the nation's research-intensive medical schools and consistently receives high marks in *U.S. News & World Report* surveys. Through its affiliates, it provides patient care to thousands of individuals every year, and plays an integral part in the communities it serves.

Dr. George is the Magerstadt Professor and Chairman of Pharmacology and Director of the Center for Pharmacogenomics at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. He is an internationally regarded leader of diseases caused by the disturbed function of ion channels (channelopathies), including those resulting in heart rhythm disorders, such as the congenital long-QT syndrome, and neurological disorders, including epilepsy.

### **Contact**

Department of Pharmacology, Searle 8-510, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA;  
Phone 312-503-4892; Email: [al.george@northwestern.edu](mailto:al.george@northwestern.edu)