



## Benitec files US Patent Response

**26 April 2007, Melbourne, Australia:** The Directors of Benitec Limited (ASX:BLT) announced today that it has filed a response to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's January 24, 2007 Office Action for Reexamination No.: 90/007,247 concerning U.S. Patent No. 6,573,099. Benitec believes that its April 24 submission fully responds to all of the issues raised by the Patent Office and persuasively explains why the prior art did not anticipate or render obvious the claims under Reexamination.

### CONTACT:

#### BENITEC LTD

Sue MacLeman  
Chief Executive Officer  
+61 437211200

Rudi Michelson  
Monsoon Communications  
+61 411402737

### About Benitec

Benitec is an Australian biotechnology company focused on licensing its extensive intellectual property portfolio and developing therapeutics to treat serious diseases using its proprietary ddRNAi technology. Its current therapeutic program is focused on Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Benitec's RNA-based HIV therapeutic, co-developed with the Center for Biomedicine & Genetics at the City of Hope in Los Angeles, California, will enter Phase I clinical trials in early 2007. For additional information, please visit [www.benitec.com](http://www.benitec.com).

### Forward-looking Statements

*This press release contains forward-looking statements that reflect the Company's current expectations regarding future events. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual events could differ materially from those projected herein and depend on a number of factors including the success of the Company's research strategy, the applicability of the discoveries made therein, the successful and timely completion of clinical studies and the uncertainties related to the regulatory process.*