

ASX/Media Release

US Graham Patent 10/646,070 Notice of Allowance

29 January 2010, Melbourne, Australia: The Directors of Benitec Limited (ASX:BLT) provide an update on progress of one of the pending US continuation patent applications derived from the Graham '099 patent (90/007,247).

On 27 January 2010, the United States Patent Office issued a Notice of Allowance on U.S. Patent Application no. 10/646,070. The application is directed towards a double-stranded synthetic gene comprising multiple copies of a structural gene region having a nucleotide sequence which is identical to a nucleotide sequence of a target gene in a eukaryotic cell. The multiple copies of structural gene region are separated by a sequence of nucleotides that is 50-100 or 100-500 nucleotides in length.

"Benitec and CSIRO are pleased to have made progress with this application and remain committed to achieving allowance of the other pending US continuation applications in the '099 patent family" said Sue MacLeman, Chief Executive Officer, Benitec Limited.

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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. For additional information, please visit www.benitec.com.