

Amgen completed its acquisition of Immunex Corporation on July 15, 2002. This archived Immunex press release is provided for reference only.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, November 6, 2001

Immunex Issued Three Patents on Innovative Cell Expression System To Advance Drug Development and Manufacturing

Expression Augmenting Sequence Element (EASE) Technology Provides High Level Expression of Recombinant Proteins

SEATTLE, WA - Immunex Corporation (Nasdaq: IMNX) announced today that the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office has issued the company three patents, Nos. 6,027,915, 6,309,841, and 6,312,951, on a gene expression technology that enhances expression, or production, of recombinant proteins. This technology, as well as other aspects of Immunex's expression technology platform, is part of an effort to significantly increase commercial manufacturing yields of ENBREL® (etanercept), and other therapeutics in development.

"Our new discovery improves results by reducing time and resources necessary to produce a high expression cell line required for the development and manufacture of commercial biologics," said James Thomas, Ph.D., Immunex vice president of process sciences. "The identification and application of the expression augmenting sequence element (EASE) is an example of a new technology our scientists in process science are using to significantly improve our manufacturing processes. Immunex continues to invest in developing robust and commercially viable manufacturing processes that deliver high-quality and consistent protein-based products such as ENBREL."

The inventors of this technology, Arvia Morris, Ph.D., Immunex senior staff scientist, and Dr. Thomas, identified and cloned a genomic DNA fragment from a mammalian cell line. This novel regulatory sequence, called "expression augmenting sequence element," or EASE, facilitates high expression of proteins in mammalian cells in a shorter period of time, and is available for licensing.

Immunex Corporation is a leading biopharmaceutical company dedicated to improving lives through immune system science innovations.

NOTE: Except for the historical information contained herein, this news release contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. Among the factors that could cause actual results or timelines to differ materially are risks associated with research and clinical development, regulatory approvals, our supply capabilities and reliance on third-party manufacturers, product commercialization, competition, litigation and other risk factors listed from time to time in reports filed by Immunex with the SEC, including but not limited to risks described under the caption "Important Factors That May Affect Our Business, Our Results of Operations and Our Stock Price" within our most recently filed Form 10-Q. The forward-looking statements contained in this news release represent our judgment as of the date of this release. Immunex undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements. An electronic version of this news release -- as well as additional information about Immunex of interest to investors, customers, future employees and patients -- is available on the Immunex home page at www.immunex.com.