



## **GENEXTRA S.P.A. RAISES OVER €36 MILLION IN EQUITY FINANCING**

**Holding focused on advancing innovative drug discovery programs has raised over €96 million to date**

**Milan, Italy -- December 14, 2009** – Genextra S.p.A., a privately held holding of companies active in the biotechnology sector, today announced the successful completion of a €36.18 million equity financing. The round was led by current investor, Francesco Micheli Associati s.r.l..

"The proceeds of this round of financing will be applied towards the clinical development of Intercept's INT-747 and DAC's DAC060, and the advancement of preclinical programs in metabolism with Intercept's TGR5 agonist, in oncology with DAC's HDAC and HSP90 inhibitors, and in cardiovascular with Congenia's mPTP inhibitors; we will also continue supporting the development of Tethis' nanotechnology diagnostics platform in multiple therapeutic areas," stated Lorenzo Tallarigo, MD, who joined Genextra as new CEO in May 2009. "The continued support from our investors reflects the value creation our programs have achieved: Genextra's companies have advanced drug discovery programs rapidly from targets to preclinical and clinical drug candidates, building a robust pipeline across metabolic disorders, oncology, and cardiovascular diseases."

### **About Genexta S.p.A.**

Genextra is a Milan (Italy) based company dedicated to identifying, validating and backing emerging academic and clinical discoveries in the life sciences sector and to fostering their development into novel therapies and innovative tools.

Genextra develops its programs through its subsidiary companies: Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Congenia, DAC and Tethis.

Intercept Pharmaceuticals. is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing therapeutics for the treatment of chronic fibrotic and metabolic diseases. Intercept's lead candidate is an FXR agonist currently completing phase II for the treatment of Primary Biliary Cirrhosis and NASH.

Congenica focuses on the discovery and development of proprietary small-molecule product candidates that target mitochondrial oxidative stress-induced processes that lead to cell death. Congenia's lead candidate is an inhibitor of mitochondrial PTP developed for the treatment of reperfusion injury in acute myocardial infarct.

DAC is developing novel HDAC and HSP90 inhibitors for the treatment of cancer. Currently, the most advanced compound is in Phase I/II for Non Melanoma Skin Cancers. In parallel, DAC is further investigating other compounds for their potential in solid and haematological cancers.

# GENEXTRA

Tethis has developed technologies that allow the precise production and manipulation of nanoparticles in gas phase to yield either the synthesis of nanoparticles by flame spray pyrolysis (FSP) or the deposition of nanostructured thin films applying supersonic cluster beams (SCBD). These unique innovative materials and revolutionary coating solutions find application in a broad range of sectors; currently the two main areas of the company's interest are biotechnology and gas sensing.

Further company information is available at Genextra's website: [www.genextra.it](http://www.genextra.it).