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## **CYP Design Ltd awarded funding by the UK's innovation agency, the Technology Strategy Board to support its research into novel drug discovery products**

CYP Design Ltd (**CYPDESIGN™**) has been awarded a grant by the government-backed Technology Strategy Board - the UK's innovation agency - to help support the development of new products and services, based on a set of proteins, named cytochrome P450s (CYPs).

CYPs are found in the human liver and are mostly responsible for the metabolism of drugs in people. These proteins are commercially available and widely used by companies involved in the discovery of new drugs. However, the currently-marketed proteins are expensive, poorly active, unstable at ambient temperatures and inconvenient to use.

**CYPDESIGN™** has developed processes for the production of active, stable and cost effective human CYPs. The Technology Strategy Board Smart award will enable **CYPDESIGN™** to demonstrate proof of concept for further exploitation of its proprietary technology that will allow it to develop new and improved CYP products that can be used throughout the drug discovery process.

Dr Bill Primrose (CEO) said: "We are delighted that the Technology Strategy Board is supporting this project. Commercially-available human cell-derived CYPs are of low activity, with considerable batch to batch variation, compared to CYPs expressed from other sources. There is an unmet need for stable human cells with defined CYP content supplied in an easy to use format for all stages of drug discovery. A successful project will enable **CYPDESIGN™** to become a leading supplier of CYP products and services in the coming years."

ENDS

### **About CYP Design Ltd**

CYP Design Ltd (**CYPDESIGN™**) is a spin out from De Montfort University. The company is dedicated to supporting its customers' drug research and development needs by offering stabilised, highly active human cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzyme products. These products are presented in unique Sacchrosomes™ and are stable at room temperature. This provides significant cost advantages as the products do not need to be shipped with dry-ice, or kept in cold storage before use, and they will provide greater convenience for customers carrying out metabolism and toxicity testing. **CYPDESIGN's** products are also being developed for use in biocatalysis and the production of drug metabolites. [www.cypdesign.co.uk](http://www.cypdesign.co.uk)

### **About Technology Strategy Board**

The Technology Strategy Board is the UK's innovation agency. Its goal is to accelerate economic growth by stimulating and supporting business-led innovation. Sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Technology Strategy Board brings together business, research and the public sector, supporting and accelerating the development of innovative products and services to meet market needs, tackle major societal

challenges and help build the future economy. For more information please visit [www.innovateuk.org](http://www.innovateuk.org)

Notes to editor

For more information please call Dr Primrose on 01223 247468.