

***Information to be embargoed until
15 February 2006, 10:45 am***

Lonza and Bio*One Capital enter into Joint Venture and commence construction of one of Asia's most advanced commercial mammalian cell culture manufacturing plants for biopharmaceuticals in Singapore

Basel, Switzerland, 15 February 2006 – Lonza Group (SWX:LONN) and Singapore's Bio*One Capital announce that they are jointly building a large-scale mammalian cell culture plant in Singapore for the manufacture of commercial biopharmaceuticals. It is Lonza's second large-scale mammalian manufacturing plant. The plant, which will be located in Tuas Biomedical Park, will include up to 4 mammalian bioreactor trains, each with a flexible capacity of 1'000 up to 20'000 litres and inclusive of the respective purification units. This joint venture between Lonza and Bio*One Capital was signed on February 14, 2006. The investment will amount to USD 250 million.

The plant will be constructed over two phases. The construction of the plant shell in the first phase has been initiated. The groundbreaking ceremony will be celebrated on 15 February 2006. The final build-out of the plant will be completed and become operational at the end of 2009 in line with customer commitments. When fully completed, the facility is expected to hire more than 300 people.

Mr Stefan Borgas, CEO of Lonza, commented: "With this project Lonza further strengthens its leading position as a global custom manufacturer of biopharmaceuticals entering the fast growing Asian market. It is an important milestone in implementing Lonza's strategy to grow the biopharmaceuticals business. The plant will operate with cutting edge technology and is able to manufacture products with a wide array of processes. It will offer our customers a second source out of one hand and therewith substantially increase security of supply."

Through this joint venture, Bio*One Capital is strengthening its investment focus on biopharmaceuticals. The project leverages on Singapore's strengths in process development and clinical manufacturing of biopharmaceuticals as well as the country's excellent capabilities in GMP manufacturing of bulk actives for global pharmaceutical companies. The joint venture will play a key role in supporting Singapore's efforts to expand its Biomedical Sciences industry through attracting more biopharmaceuticals manufacturing activities.

"Bio*One Capital is very pleased to enter into this joint venture with Lonza to establish Singapore's first commercial-scale biopharmaceuticals manufacturing facility. We are delighted to have found a partner in Lonza whose leading technological expertise and market presence make the perfect complement to our growing investment activities in biopharmaceuticals," said Ms Swee-Yeok Chu, CEO of Bio*One Capital.

"Our common goal now is to build a state-of-the-art facility and grow the joint venture in the medium term into the world's premier supplier of biopharmaceuticals custom manufacturing solutions to pharmaceuticals and biotech companies globally," she added.

About Lonza

Lonza, a chemical and biotechnology company driven by the life sciences, generated sales of CHF 2.52 billion in 2005. Headquartered in Switzerland, Lonza operates 21 production and R&D sites around the world. Its 6000 employees are passionately committed to delivering sustainable value to their customers. Lonza is one of the leading custom manufacturers of chemical intermediates, active ingredients and biopharmaceuticals for the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries. On the basis of organic chemical, oleochemical and biotechnology platforms, Lonza creates value-added solutions for the nutrition, hygiene & personal care, wood & water treatment and industrial specialty markets. Lonza also offers polymer intermediates, resins and compounds. Further information can be found on our website www.lonza.com.

About Bio*One Capital

Bio*One Capital Pte Ltd is a leading, dedicated biomedical sciences investment management company in Asia with a worldwide presence. With funds of over USD 600 million, investments are focused on promising global biomedical companies where Bio*One Capital can play a value adding role in bridging and supporting companies' growth strategies in Asia through their operations in Singapore. Bio*One Capital offers a strong combination of financial, business, scientific and investment know-how to enhance the value of companies from intellectual property generating research, to clinical and product development, manufacturing and commercial activities. Through its extensive networks with global pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical technology companies and venture capital corporations, Bio*One Capital proactively facilitates partnering and collaborative opportunities to help its portfolio companies grow into sustainable and successful ventures. For more information, please visit www.bio1capital.com.

For further information:

Media Relations

Christine Menz

Tel +41 61 316 8253

Fax +41 61 316 9253

christine.menz@lonza.com

Investor Relations

Laura Gerber

Tel +41 61 316 8347

Fax +41 61 316 8220

laura.gerber@lonza.com

Bio*One Capital

Sheo S. Rai

Tel + 65-6395-7784

Fax +65-6395-7797

sheo_shanker_rai@bmsg.gov.sg