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## IPS STRENGTHENS BIOTECHNOLOGY TEAM WITH ADDITION OF INDUSTRY EXPERTS, MARK F. WITCHER, PhD AND JEFFERY N. ODUM

- Witcher and Odum join in-house experts to offer expertise in Biopharmaceutical Development and Manufacturing -

**Lafayette Hill, PA; May 17, 2011** – Integrated Project Services (IPS), a leading, full-service engineering firm dedicated to helping clients succeed with capital projects and improve operations, today announced the strengthening of its biotechnology team with the addition of Mark F. Witcher, PhD and Jeffery N. Odum.

"Adding Mark and Jeff's level of experience and technical know-how to IPS allows us to provide top notch expertise to biopharmaceutical clients," said Dave Goswami, PE, President and Chief Operating Officer, IPS. "The IPS brand now represents best-in-class biotechnology services including manufacturing operations, bioprocess, process architecture, engineering, project management, commissioning, bioprocess equipment start-up and qualification. With the addition of Mark and Jeff, we believe our biotech team further enhances our position as a proven leader in biopharmaceutical development and manufacturing."

Mark F. Witcher, PhD brings more than thirty years of industry managerial experience to facilitate the development and commercialization of new biopharmaceutical products for both small and large companies. Dr. Witcher served in several executive roles providing product development strategies, process development, facility operations, clinical and commercial manufacturing strategies and cost of goods estimates. For a major biotechnology company, he was a key member of the team that designed, engineering, constructed, staffed and validated a biotech manufacturing facility for a blockbuster drug and successfully shipped bulk product in less than two years. Dr. Witcher has also established and directed the team that designed, constructed and initiated cGMP manufacturing in a \$50MM multi-product contract manufacturing facility within 22 months. Throughout his career, he has evaluated, prepared and presented manufacturing plans and economic analysis for the manufacture of numerous biopharmaceuticals. Dr. Witcher earned his Doctorate and Master of Science degrees in Chemical Engineering from University of Massachusetts and a Bachelor degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Virginia.

Mr. Odum's twenty-five years of experience includes conceptual design, detailed design, preconstruction, construction, operations consulting, start-up and qualification support for capital projects ranging in size from \$1 million to more than \$2 billion. He conducts facility compliance and quality systems audits and has developed and presented licensing packages to US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) training to Fortune 500 biopharmaceutical companies. Mr. Odum has authored more than fifty published works and presented at industry forums and conferences on biotechnology, process improvement, manufacturing operations, bioprocess development and compliance issues. Mr. Odum served as the North American Education Advisor to the International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE), a member of the Biotechnology Community of Practice and a contributing author to numerous industry baseline and reference guides focused on biotechnology manufacturing, process development, project management and commissioning and qualification. He is also an adjunct faculty member of NC State University's BTEC graduate program in biomanufacturing. Mr. Odum graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and received his Masters Degree in Engineering/EM from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

In addition to Dr. Witcher and Mr. Odum, the IPS Biotechnology Team is led by the following biotechnology experts who offer combined expertise and in-depth knowledge in Biopharmaceutical Development and Manufacturing:

<u>Tom J. Piombino, PE</u> – Mr. Piombino is a partner at IPS overseeing the Biotechnology Group. He has sixteen years of experience focused on the design and delivery of biopharmaceutical facilities from conceptual process architecture to process design studies to detailed facility/process engineering. His technical background includes project management of both construction and design projects as well as estimating, process architecture and HVAC/mechanical systems engineering.

<u>Dave Wareheim</u> - A recognized expert in single-use (SU) bioprocess technology, Mr. Wareheim possesses over thirty years of experience as a bioprocess expert for small- and large-scale biomanufacturing projects. He was responsible for the process implementation of SU biotechnologies in upstream and downstream unit operations which ultimately led to patent submission and design/build of a first ever chromatography system.



## About IPS

Integrated Project Services (IPS), <u>www.ipsdb.com</u>, is a leader in developing innovative and cost effective solutions for the engineering, construction, commissioning and qualification of complex biotech research and manufacturing facilities. With technical expertise spanning R&D to pilot-scale to large-scale production, our team specializes in the technology, trends and regulatory environment to successfully deliver capital projects and improve operations. For over twenty years, we have applied LEAN techniques throughout the project life cycle, continually finding ways to do things better and more efficiently, delivering higher quality and controlling costs. Headquartered in Lafayette Hill, PA, IPS has branch offices in California, Indiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey and two locations in India.

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