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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **PROOF Centre of Excellence and UBC James Hogg iCAPTURE Research Centre Win *Bio-IT World Grand Prize Best Practices Award* in Partnership with IO Informatics, Inc.**

**Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (April 27, 2010)** – Vancouver’s life sciences community recently garnered more international attention with the announcement that the Centre of Excellence for the Prevention of Organ Failure (PROOF Centre) and the UBC James Hogg iCAPTURE Research Centre received the 2010 *Bio-IT World Best Practices Award* for Personalized & Translational Medicine.

Established in 2003, the *Bio-IT World Best Practices Awards* recognizes teams across industry and academia for excellence in innovation that lead to improvements in financial and operational capabilities in the life sciences community.

The PROOF Centre, a multi-sectoral, not-for-profit collaborative enterprise hosted by the University of British Columbia, strives to discover, develop, commercialize and implement molecular biomarker solutions for better patient management and therapy along the life cycle of heart, lung and kidney failure from risk through to endstage disease. By speeding up the discovery to implementation process, the PROOF Centre focuses on making an impact on health care and medical practice as quickly as possible. Home to world leaders in heart, lung and blood vessel disease research based at St. Paul’s Hospital, the UBC James Hogg iCAPTURE Research Centre works closely with teams in the PROOF Centre in the biomarker development processes to improve prevention, prediction, diagnosis and treatment of heart, lung and kidney failure.

“We are so delighted and honoured to receive this award,” says Dr. Bruce McManus, Director of the PROOF Centre and UBC James Hogg iCAPTURE Research Centre. “It reflects the need for teamwork across disciplines, institutions, sectors and geographies. Without such teams, we simply couldn’t make progress in the complex arena of translational research and especially in regards to making molecular biomarker sets relevant to better patient care. The Award took us completely off-guard. We know that the strength of partnerships and collaboration in the quest to fight heart, lung and kidney failure really underlies this recognition. We wouldn’t be here without our dedicated and talented partners, namely IO Informatics, in this journey.”

The Centres were nominated by IO Informatics (Berkeley, CA), whose Sentient software suite is used in the data integration environment. IO Informatics submitted the nomination in recognition of the Centre’s visionary research and collaborative best practices for semantic data integration, knowledge building and sharing applied to biomarker discovery.

“It has been a great pleasure working with the team at PROOF and iCAPTURE in their pioneering approach for transforming a vision to practical use. It was exciting to see that they were able to use our software to achieve breakthrough results which exemplifies the transformative abilities of the Sentient Suite for patient-centric translational and personalized medicine,” stated Dr. Erich Gombocz, Chief Science Officer, IO informatics.





“These Centres’ commitment to excellence has made it possible for IO to demonstrate a uniquely practical and dynamic semantic integration framework in a major site-wide implementation,” added Bob Stanley, President and CEO, IO Informatics. “With this award, we see broad recognition that the Sentient semantic integration methods and applications effectively meet critical needs for world-class research and point-of-care applications in translational research and personalized medicine.”

The Gala and Awards Ceremony were held April 22 at the World Trade Center in Boston, Massachusetts, at the Cambridge Healthtech Institute’s eighth annual Bio-IT World Conference & Expo. Grand Prize recipients selected in other categories included the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Scripps Research Institute, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Research & Development Centocor R&D, Inc. (a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson). Full award details can be found here:

[www.bio-itworld.com/2010/04/21/best-practices-winners.html](http://www.bio-itworld.com/2010/04/21/best-practices-winners.html).

### **About the PROOF Centre of Excellence**

The Centre of Excellence for the Prevention of Organ Failure (PROOF Centre) is a cross-disciplinary endeavor of partners from industry, academia, health care, government, patients and the public focused on reducing the enormous socioeconomic burdens of heart, lung and kidney failure and on improving health. The PROOF Centre is a not-for-profit society established in March 2008 by competitive funding from the Networks of Centres of Excellence Secretariat under the Centre of Excellence for Commercialization and Research (NCE CECR) Program. The PROOF Centre is hosted by the University of British Columbia and is anchored in the Providence Heart + Lung Institute at St. Paul’s Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia. Partnered resources and core capabilities of the PROOF Centre, including patient cohorts, information management and technology platforms, are situated in Vancouver, elsewhere in British Columbia, across Canada, and around the world.

[www.proofcentre.ca](http://www.proofcentre.ca)

### **About the UBC James Hogg iCAPTURE Research Centre**

The UBC James Hogg iCAPTURE Research Centre, within the Providence Heart + Lung Institute at St. Paul’s Hospital, has 270 personnel, including 31 nationally funded principal investigators and numerous trainees and staff members working to solve the unknowns of heart, lung, and blood vessel diseases. A central theme of work in the Centre is to link recent breakthroughs in genetic sciences to abnormal gene expression and to changes in the structure and function (phenotype) of cells, tissues, and organs related to the development of heart, lung, and blood vessel diseases. [www.hli.ubc.ca](http://www.hli.ubc.ca)

### **About IO Informatics**

IO is at the forefront of the semantic technology wave. The company provides software and services for uniquely efficient data integration and transformative knowledge applications in life sciences, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and medical environments.

For more information visit: [www.io-informatics.com](http://www.io-informatics.com)

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### **For additional information and to arrange an interview contact:**

Leah Lockhart  
PROOF Centre of Excellence  
604-806-9853 or [leah.lockhart@hli.ubc.ca](mailto:leah.lockhart@hli.ubc.ca)

Kashef Qaadri  
IO Informatics, Inc.  
510-705-8470 or [kqaadri@io-informatics.com](mailto:kqaadri@io-informatics.com)