

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

System to Effectively Screen Filters for Different Bioprocess Operations Can Dramatically Reduce Costs

Princeton, NJ (January 15, 2009) - There is an increasing need to optimize bioprocess operations such as filtration before scale-up to production. This can result in dramatic savings in costs and other operational expenses. Optimization of filter type and amount of filtration surface area required is a key area to focus on to minimize costs of goods. Many filtration companies offer filtration media in test disks to facilitate laboratory scale testing for normal flow filtration processes. A new off-the-shelf Filter Screening System to assist in the analysis of filter performance has been introduced by PendoTECH. The system features a control box that can control one to four pumps and monitor 12 pressure sensors that measure filter performance. It is designed to operate 4 parallel filter trains with up to three filters and three pressure sensors per train but can also be used to test 12 independent filters. The control box is interfaced to a PC that has a specially designed graphical user interface. Process setup information can be entered and saved and all process data is collected to a file that can be opened later in Excel. All process data can separately be trended in real-time to monitor performance. There is the ability to enter end-points and alarm shut-off point so that lengthy experiments may be conducted with little user interaction so other critical tasks may be completed. The intuitive design minimizes training requirements and maximizes productivity.

The pressure sensors used with the system are PendoTECH Single Use Pressure Sensors. The sensors come in a wide variety of sizes and two materials but the size with the luer fittings is typically the best choice for the small scale studies. Material selections include polycarbonate and polysulphone with the latter being the better choice if better chemical resistance is required. They are rated for use up to 75 psi and may be re-used for process development work if cross contamination is not a concern.

The system has already been proven to be a useful tool to several major companies in the industry and also was recently highlighted by Genentech at the WilBio "Filtration for Biologicals Conference". A specially designed diaphragm pump module option is under development that will further enhance the system for some users.

PendoTECH is committed to providing value-added products and services to companies in the biopharmaceutical industry for enhanced development and production of mainly cell culture derived products. As the number of biologicals produced by cell culture increases and the industry matures, new technologies and process approaches are available for comparison to the existing ones for evaluation of enhanced production output and reduced cost of goods. Visit: www.pendotech.com for more information.

###