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Tularik Announces the Formation of German Subsidiary

South San Francisco, CA, April 16, 2001 -- Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq: TLRK) today announced the formation of Tularik GmbH, a wholly owned subsidiary located in Regensburg, Germany. The subsidiary will develop new assays and implement high-throughput screening for the identification of small molecule drugs that act to regulate gene expression.

“Although the pharmaceutical industry is multinational, relatively few U.S. biotech companies have so far taken advantage of the enormous opportunities and resources in Europe,” said Ulrike Schindler, Ph.D., Managing Director of Tularik GmbH.

Over the last two years, biotech in Europe has blossomed, with interest and activity especially strong in Germany. “We intend to take advantage of this European opportunity,” said Dr. Schindler, “to recruit excellent scientists, to identify the most promising European-developed technologies and to apply these to Tularik’s broad-based drug discovery efforts.”

Dr. Schindler, a German native, joined Tularik eight years ago after completing a Ph.D. in biochemistry at Albert-Ludwig University in Freiburg, Germany and the University of Pennsylvania. “As one of Tularik’s first scientists, Ulrike is steeped in the company’s drug discovery and development philosophy; as a native of Germany she is also well acquainted with the latest scientific and corporate developments in European biotech. Thus, she is ideally suited to build and run our first European base of operations,” said Terry Rosen, Ph.D., Executive Vice President of Operations at Tularik.

Dr. Schindler is an expert in the application of gene regulation technology to drug discovery. She is a past program director of Tularik’s drug discovery effort in Immune Disorders. Her scientific staff in Germany includes two other German natives, Dr. Holger

Beckmann and Dr. Ralf Schwandner, both of whom worked at Tularik's headquarters in South San Francisco before relocating to Regensburg.

A 2,000-year-old Bavarian city on the banks of the Danube, Regensburg has become a hotbed of German biotechnology and other high-technology business activity in recent years. Located about 120 kilometers northeast of Munich—site of the renowned Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry—Regensburg is home to subsidiaries of many multinational corporations, including Toshiba, Infineon, BMW and Siemens.

Tularik's German operations are located within BioPark Regensburg, an innovative biotechnology business incubator developed in part by the Free State of Bavaria, the German national government and the city of Regensburg.

“Tularik is very impressed with the commitment that has been made by this city and the German government in support of the biotech industry,” said Dr. Schindler. “There is good cooperation between local universities, the state government and the private sector.

“The BioPark incubator that we're now a part of is the product of that cooperative spirit. It enables us to take advantage of excellent infrastructure, which is essential for biotechnology R&D, as well as proximity to the University of Regensburg and its associated clinic, where we have access to medical libraries and other specialized facilities.

“The atmosphere for doing research and development is quite stimulating. Being at the heart of biotech in this part of Germany, we're able to interact readily with our counterparts across the industry. We're also close to Munich, and have been able to recruit from that city some very fine technical and laboratory staff.”

Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available drugs that act through the regulation of gene expression. Tularik programs address cancer, viral diseases, inflammation, immune disorders, lipid disorders, diabetes, bacterial diseases and obesity. Tularik has established strategic partnerships with Japan Tobacco Inc., Roche Bioscience and Knoll AG. For more information, visit Tularik's Internet website at www.tularik.com.

This press release contains “forward-looking” statements. For this purpose, any statements contained in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Words such as “believes”, “anticipates”, “plans”, “expects”, “will”, “intend” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause the results of Tularik to differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements, including, among others, risks detailed from time to time in Tularik's SEC reports, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000.