



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CogniScent's New Sensor Patent Enables Odor Detection Opportunities in Security, Medical and Industrial Markets**

**NORTH GRAFTON, Mass., JUNE 26, 2006** – CogniScent, a leading developer of high-performance systems to detect volatile chemical compounds, today announced that it has received a United States Patent for its proprietary DNA-based sensor material to be used with its innovative *ScenTraK*™ odor-detection technology.

CogniScent's newly patented DNA-based sensing material makes millions of potential sensor variants available and permits the high-throughput screening of individual sensors to find optimal sets for particular problems. It is then possible to produce large quantities of these sensors using current, straightforward, synthetic techniques.

"This breakthrough allows CogniScent access to a vast library of proprietary sensors that enable us to custom-develop sensors for any odor detection application," said CogniScent CEO Hugh Greville. "As a result, CogniScent is able to provide engineered odor detection solutions more quickly, at higher volume, and at greater sensitivity and lower cost than currently available technologies."

### **About ScenTraK**

*ScenTraK* is a lightweight, handheld, highly sensitive, opto-electronic platform that models the way biological noses work to detect, identify and discriminate many different airborne compounds in real time (~ 2 sec).

*ScenTraK* models olfactory sensing by utilizing 23 biologically-inspired attributes. The biological modeling approach was derived directly from neuroscience research conducted by Dr. John Kauer and Dr. Joel White of the Tufts University School of Medicine. The system uses an opto-electronic sensor array, and its output drives software algorithms trained to identify specific

olfactory patterns. Unlike other odor detection approaches, *ScenTrak*'s patented use of an array of broadly responsive sensors enables identification of both specific compounds and odor signatures associated with a particular application without compromising sensitivity.

The unique adaptability of CogniScent's *ScenTraK* technology supports device makers who need customized detection solutions for a wide variety of applications in the security, medical and industrial markets.

In conjunction with Hamilton Thorne Biosciences, CogniScent is in the final production phase of a program to develop an innovative series of tools to detect the presence of mold in residential and commercial buildings. The *ScenTraK* technology is also the core technology behind a product designed specifically for security applications and funded by the Department of Homeland Security. This is a handheld device that detects, identifies and discriminates between toxic industrial chemicals and chemical warfare agents and is tailored for use by first responders during contamination incidents or in acts of terror.

### **Key Attributes of *ScenTraK***

- ***Easy to Use***            Operation requires no sample preparation experience or technical training
- ***Lightweight***            Easily portable, only 3 lbs in weight and 8" long
- ***Inexpensive***            Readily affordable, with a market price of less than \$5,000
- ***Adaptable***            Interchangeable sensor cartridges can be swapped in the field, accommodating a variety of odor scenarios
- ***Accurate***                Disposable sensors ensure low maintenance and continued accuracy
- ***Rapid Response***        Identifies environmental odors within seconds, providing real-time results
- ***Highly Sensitive***        Detects target odors to high sensitivities (ppb and high pptillion levels), and identifies volatile compounds at a range of concentrations
- ***Discriminating***        Can discriminate targets in the presence of background interferents
- ***Patented***                CogniScent's *ScenTraK* technology has received two patents:
  1. *Intelligent Electro-Optical Sensor Array and Method for Analyte Detection*
  2. *Intelligent Electro-optical Nucleic Acid-based Sensor Array and Method for Detecting Volatile Compounds in Ambient Air*

**About CogniScent, Inc.**

CogniScent, Incorporated develops high-performance detection systems using broadly responsive sensors to detect, identify and discriminate airborne chemical compounds. CogniScent's *ScenTraK*™ technology can provide customized detection solutions in the security, medical and industrial markets. Founded in 2002 and based on research undertaken at Tufts University Medical School, CogniScent is funded through Department of Homeland Security research contracts, joint ventures and private investors. More information can be found at [www.cogniscentinc.com](http://www.cogniscentinc.com).

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