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CMU HOSTS WORLDWIDE DENDRIMER TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

MOUNT PLEASANT — The latest research and applications in dendrimer technology will be showcased at a global symposium being hosted for the first time in the United States at Central Michigan University.

“For the first time ever, a session will be dedicated to the commercial and industrial applications of dendrimer-based materials,” said Robert Berry, president and chief executive officer of Dendritic NanoTechnologies Inc. located at CMU’s Center for Applied Research and Technology in Mount Pleasant.

“The fourth International Dendrimer Symposium builds upon previous efforts of the symposium series, examining recent breakthroughs in this emerging field, and looking to the future through an in-depth analysis of the medical and commercial applications of dendrimer and hyper-branched polymer technologies,” said Berry.

IDS-4, which will feature more than 70 internationally recognized speakers and papers and more than 100 poster displays and events, will be held May 18 to 21, 2005. Abstracts must be submitted by Jan. 15, 2005, and papers by March 1, 2005. The cost of registration before March 1 is \$195 for students, \$395 for faculty and \$795 for others. Registration information is online at www.ids4.org/registration.htm.

“The International Dendrimer Symposium is one of the premier events in the field of dendrimer technology,” said CMU President Michael Rao. “CMU is honored to serve as host for the symposium’s first visit to the United States.”

IDS-4 will feature the most active and exciting fields of modern materials research — a field that combines the fundamental disciplines of chemistry, physics, biology and engineering with the rapidly developing fields of materials research in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, optoelectronics, nanotechnology and others, said Berry.

In addition, the event will feature a number of social programs that will include performances by CMU’s School of Music, tastes of local cuisine and a tour of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe’s Ziiibwing Center, a cultural center about the Anishinabe people of the Great Lakes. The tour will include traditional dance performances by tribal members.

IDS-4 current sponsors include CMU, the CMU Research Corp., the Army Research Laboratory, Dendritic NanoTechnologies, Starpharma, Small Times Magazine and the Michigan Small Tech Association. Sponsorships are available from \$2,500 to \$20,000.

DNT was founded by world-renowned scientist Donald Tomalia, who discovered dendrimers, a novel class of three-dimensional nanoscale, core-shell structures that can be precisely synthesized for a wide range of applications. Additionally, DNT is a partner organization in CMU’s federally designated National Center of Excellence in Dendrimer Nanotechnology.

The State of Michigan featured DNT and Tomalia as one of Michigan’s best high tech research and manufacturing companies in ads from March through September in Fortune, Bio IT World, Small Times, MX, Modern Drug Discovery, Science, Forbes, Technology Review and many more publications.

The CMU Research Corp., a not-for-profit organization, provides business insight and support for the development of applied research and nanotechnology enterprises, other entrepreneurial activity, retention of resources in the mid-Michigan area, and support for academic teaching and research.

Three previous global symposiums have been held in Frankfurt, Germany; Tokyo, Japan; and Berlin, Germany.

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