



KECK GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
of Applied Life Sciences



BioImaging Systems - Laboratory Products –  
Ultraviolet Products - Light Sources

For Immediate Release

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## FirstLight™ UV Illuminator Wins the Photonics Circle of Excellence Award

Upland, CA, April 5, 2005 – UVP Inc. received the 2004 Photonics Circle of Excellence Award for its FirstLight™ UV Illuminator, mention of the award is included in this month's issue of Photonics Spectra Magazine. The annual awards sponsored by Laurin Publishing honor the 25 most technically innovative products of the year.

“It is a great honor to receive this award,” said Alex Waluszko, vice president of marketing and sales who accepted the award for UVP Inc. at a ceremony in February. “To be recognized by the industry for our work in developing and manufacturing ultraviolet products is highly rewarding to our entire team.”

“The FirstLight™ UV Illuminator is a breakthrough design allowing researchers to achieve superior quality and reproducible data as a result of uniformity of the ultraviolet light source not available before,” said Sean Gallagher, UVP's chief technology officer. When combined with a UVP BioImaging System, the FirstLight™ UV Illuminator enables researchers to acquire significantly improved images without the need for software correction or manipulation. The unit provides the advantage as a low-cost solution compared to laser-based scanning, while achieving the ultraviolet light uniformity, which is important for quantitative 1D and 2D gel analysis.

The FirstLight™ UV Illuminator unique patented design emits 302 nm ultraviolet excitation and combines a specially designed, high density grid array ultraviolet lighting configuration with a phosphor coating to generate exceptionally uniform ultraviolet illumination. It produces less than 5% coefficient of variance (CV) across the full imaging surface, which is essential for capturing high quality images for documentation and quantitative analysis. The design assures consistent sensitivity and dynamic range for achieving accurate and reproducible DNA, RNA and protein gel analysis results. No matter where the gel is placed on the optical band pass filter surface, uniformity of ultraviolet illumination is assured for direct gel-to-gel comparison.

Using biological samples, Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences (KGI), located in Claremont, California, partnered with UVP Inc. to validate the tests and results obtained with the FirstLight™ UV Illuminator. Bulbul Chakravarti, research associate professor at KGI led the biological validation project for the FirstLight™ UV Illuminator.

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Deb Chakravarti, Beckman Professor and director of the Proteomics Center at KGI said that it was a valuable collaboration for UVP Inc. and KGI. “Our researchers and students are able to work on cutting-edge scientific solutions from discovery to the marketplace. I am delighted that our work together has resulted in this prestigious award.”

Both Leighton Smith, president of UVP Inc., and Sheldon Schuster, president of the Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences, agree that partnerships between the corporate world and higher education are very valuable. UVP Inc. regularly sponsors student projects like the Team Masters Projects at KGI and the Clinic Projects at Harvey Mudd College, also a member of the Claremont Colleges. At KGI the partnership provides students with an opportunity to gain valuable real world experience within the bioscience industry. KGI has also received generous support for the Proteomics Center from the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, and the Henry L. Guenther Foundation.

#### **UVP Inc. Background**

UVP Inc. is a leader in developing and manufacturing ultraviolet products, providing quality products, services, and innovative solutions for life science research. UVP's headquarters and manufacturing facility is located in Upland, California. European Operations, Ultra-Violet Products Ltd., located in Cambridge, England, is a subsidiary. UVP Inc. is a molecular photonics company designing, manufacturing, and distributing a broad spectrum of innovative instruments and imaging systems for life science applications. With core expertise as the leading developer and manufacturer of ultraviolet products since 1932, UVP continues to move forward with innovative products with a specialty in fluorescence and luminescence-based imaging applications in the life sciences at molecular, cellular, and whole organism life levels. With administrative staff and manufacturing personnel of over 100 employees, the organization provides comprehensive service and support to customers and dealers worldwide.

#### **KGI Background**

Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences is an independent, coeducational graduate school offering a unique professional Master of Bioscience (MBS) degree that is accredited through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. KGI is the seventh and newest member of the Claremont University Consortium, located in Claremont, California.

Note to Editors: Interviews can be arranged with all of the principals introduced in the press release. Photos are available of the FirstLight™ UV Illuminator and students working in the Proteomics Center at KGI.