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### Press Release

ACGT takes best booth award at BioMalaysia 2008

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 7, 2008** – Asiatic Centre for Genome Technology Sdn Bhd (ACGT)'s astounding booth wins first prize in the Raw Space Category at BioMalaysia 2008. ACGT competed against 21 other companies for the award.

The company successfully completed the first draft of the oil palm genome on May 21, 2008. It has established the ACGT Jatropha Experimental Station (AJES) in Sepang. Spanning over 22 hectares, AJES is one of the largest experimental stations in Malaysia dedicated to jatropha.

The booth's winning attributes were its hanging jatropha trees and interactive exhibits. The booth's hanging jatropha trees are a showstopper. Catching the exhibition visitor's eyes even from afar; the plant, often touted the oil crop of the future, is suspended in midair at about six feet above ground.

Visitors to the booth will learn more about the company's research and development activities in jatropha, oil palm genomics and bioinformatics. Among the booth's exhibits are oil palm fruit, fruits bunches, seeds; jatropha oil, fruit, seeds; and even oil palm male and female inflorescence. The bioinformatics software gives visitors have the chance to learn how to do a genome assembly.

Derrick Khoo Sin Huat, Chief Executive Officer, ACGT thanks the organizers and the judges for the nomination: "I would like to thank the organizers for initiating the competition and the panel of judges for nominating us. The idea behind the booth design is more than to please the eyes. We want our booth to be a place for us to meet industry players and more importantly, to exchange knowledge with experts in the biotechnology field. If we are able to achieve this objective, then our booth has served its purpose."

Mr Khoo emphasizes that the company's participation in BioMalaysia 2008 is important and sees the event as an opportunity for ACGT to be an active participant in the Malaysian government's aspiration to become a biotechnology hub in the year 2020.

ACGT is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Asiatic Development Berhad. Asiatic Development Berhad's Chief Financial Officer Cheah Ching Mooi received the award from Y.Bhg Tan Sri Datuk Dr Ahmad Zaharudin Idrus, Chairman, Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation today.

ACGT's booth is located at booth no.001, Hall 5, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. BioMalaysia 2008 runs from 7-9 October 2008.



### **About ACGT**

Asiatic Centre for Genome Technology (ACGT) Sdn Bhd is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Asiatic Development Berhad. ACGT is established as a centre of excellence in genomic science. ACGT, a BioNexus status company, aims to develop genomics-based solutions to increase productivity and enhance value creation from the oil palm and other crops. ACGT has a strategic partnership with Synthetic Genomics, Inc, a privately-owned biotechnology company dedicated to developing and commercializing synthetic genomic processes and naturally occurring processes for clean and renewable alternative energy solutions. The partners have a multi-year research and development joint venture to sequence and analyze oil crops such as oil palm and jatropha. For more information, visit [www.acgt.asia](http://www.acgt.asia).

### **About Asiatic Development Berhad**

Asiatic Development Berhad (“Asiatic”), a 55%-owned subsidiary of Genting Berhad, commenced its operations in 1980 as the plantation arm of the Genting Group. Over the years, the Asiatic Group had embarked on several significant acquisitions in Malaysia, thus increasing its land bank from a mere 13,700 hectares in 1980 to nearly 66,000 hectares to date. In line with its long term strategy, the Asiatic Group has further expanded its operations to Indonesia, on joint venture basis, to nearly 150, 000 hectares. The Asiatic Group also owns 5 oil mills with a total milling capacity of 235 tonnes per hour and is reputed to be one of the lowest cost palm oil producers with fresh fruit bunches production of over one million tonnes. Asiatic is one of the early members of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). For more information, visit [www.asiatic.com.my](http://www.asiatic.com.my).