



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Senior Pharmaceutical Executive Joins AerovectRx Board**

*David Johnston, former VP of R&D for Nektar, provides broad drug and device development experience*

NORCROSS, GA (February 7, 2008) – [AerovectRx Corporation](#), an aerosol drug delivery and therapeutics company, announced the appointment of David Johnston, Ph.D. to its Board of Directors. Dr. Johnston is a senior pharmaceutical executive with extensive experience in preclinical and clinical drug development, regulatory affairs and product commercialization.

“We are very pleased to have David join our AerovectRx team,” said AerovectRx Chief Executive Officer Ed Cannon. “David brings a wealth of experience in all aspects of therapeutic development, including specific expertise with inhaled therapeutics. His guidance will be a significant benefit as we launch our initial therapeutic development programs utilizing our AeroCell™ technology.”

“The AerovectRx AeroCell™ technology has numerous attractive applications for delivery of small molecule drugs and biologics, including vaccines to the respiratory tract,” said Dr. Johnston. “I look forward to working with the Company to exploit this important aerosol delivery platform.”

Dr. Johnston was most recently Senior Vice President of Research and Development for Nektar Therapeutics where his responsibilities included planning and operations for drug delivery, including inhalation technologies, clinical development, regulatory affairs and safety, quality control and assurance for clinical supplies, and product and device development. Prior to Nektar, he was Chief Development Officer and Vice President Operations for Control Delivery Systems where he oversaw co-development of the Retisert™ product, marketed by Bausch and Lomb for the treatment of uveitis. He has previously held executive leadership positions with AAI International and Oread, Inc., both Contract Research Organizations providing product development and support services for pharmaceuticals, biologics and medical devices. Dr. Johnston earned his bachelor’s and doctorate degrees in chemistry from St. Andrews University (Scotland) and completed postdoctoral training at the

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Max Planck Institute (Heidelberg, Germany). He began his pharmaceutical career with Sterling-Winthrop where he held positions of increasing responsibility in discovery and preclinical and clinical development.

AerovectRx is a spin out from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”). The company’s AeroCell™ products are based on patented technology exclusively licensed from the CDC and utilize state of art ultrasonic vibrating mesh technology integrated with a unit dose medication cartridge as a disposable-consumable to reliably and efficiently deliver complex biologics and vaccines as well as small molecule drugs to the respiratory tract. These features eliminate maintenance, reduce risk of patient re-infection, and improve dosage control.

Aerosol delivery of therapeutics and vaccines directly to the respiratory tract is optimal for treating and/or preventing respiratory diseases. Additionally, aerosol delivery will be preferred in certain non-respiratory diseases as an alternative to injection, to achieve rapid onset of activity or to avoid GI side effects and/or GI and first pass hepatic metabolism. The annual market for inhaled drug delivery is currently estimated at \$20 billion.

**About AerovectRx --**

AerovectRx Corporation is an aerosol drug delivery and therapeutics company. The company’s AeroCell™ products provide reliable, efficient delivery of complex biologics, including vaccines, and small molecule drugs to the respiratory tract. AerovectRx commercializes AeroCell™ technology through partnerships for respiratory delivery of its partners’ high value therapeutic and vaccine products and also exploits the technology in its own therapeutic development programs. For more information, visit [www.aerovectrx.com](http://www.aerovectrx.com).

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