

# ***morphotek inc.***

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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| <b>Contact:</b> | Nicholas Nicolaides<br>Morphotek, Inc.<br>610-423-6100<br>info@morphotek.com | Judee Shuler<br>Eisai Corporation of<br>North America<br>201-746-2241<br>judee_shuler@eisai.com | Beth Meiklejohn<br>Reverb—DBC<br>215-957-0300 x225<br>bmeiklejohn@dbcommunications.net |
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### **Morphotek<sup>®</sup>, Inc. Announces Evaluation Agreement with The University Hospital Heidelberg**

#### ***Agreement for Discovery and Evaluation of Therapeutic Antibodies in Oncology***

Exton, PA, January 14, 2009 – Morphotek<sup>®</sup>, Inc., a subsidiary of Eisai Corporation of North America, today announced the signing of an evaluation agreement with the University Hospital Heidelberg and its Technology Transfer Office, Germany to advance the company's efforts in the discovery and development of therapeutic antibodies in oncology. The agreement provides for a research grant to the University Hospital/National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT) and for use by Morphotek of biological materials to generate and validate therapeutic monoclonal antibodies to oncology targets selected by Morphotek.

“We are very pleased to be collaborating with one of the world’s leading research and clinical centers in oncology,” said Nicholas Nicolaides, Ph.D., President and CEO of Morphotek. “This research program offers Morphotek unique clinical materials to generate and validate potential therapeutic antibodies using our MORPHODOMA<sup>®</sup> technologies and will enable us to advance our goal of discovering and developing novel monoclonal antibody therapeutics. The clinical group at NCT is dedicated to bringing new therapies to treat patients with cancer, and we look forward to collaborating with them to discover new experimental medicines with potential to treat patients with various cancers.”

#### **About Heidelberg University Hospital and Medical Faculty**

Internationally recognized for patient care, research, and teaching, Heidelberg University Hospital is one of the largest and most prestigious medical centers in Germany. The Medical Faculty of Heidelberg University belongs to the internationally most renowned biomedical research institutions in Europe. Both institutions have the common goal of developing new therapies and implementing them rapidly for patients. With about 7,000 employees, training and qualification is an important issue. Every year, around 860,000 patients are treated on an inpatient or outpatient basis in more than 40 clinics and departments with 1,600 beds. Currently, about 3,100 future physicians are studying in Heidelberg.

The NCT was founded by the Heidelberg University Hospital, the Medical Faculty of Heidelberg University and the German Cancer Research Center in close cooperation with the German Cancer Aid to establish a comprehensive cancer center (CCC). The NCT Heidelberg is a multidisciplinary cancer center with the mission of implementing new programs in interdisciplinary oncology and translational cancer research. Departments for Medical Oncology, Translational Oncology, and Preventive Oncology comprise the NCT's core. The NCT interdisciplinary oncology outpatient clinics offer daily consultations for all cancer patients in the university hospital. The focus of the NCT is to integrate clinical and basic research into daily patient care. The development of new treatment modalities is of especially high interest, and the NCT seeks strong alliances with innovative companies to achieve this goal.

### **About Morphotek**

Morphotek<sup>®</sup>, Inc., a subsidiary of Eisai Corporation of North America, is a biopharmaceutical company specializing in the development of protein and antibody products through the use of a novel and proprietary gene evolution technology. The technology has been successfully applied to a broad variety of cell lines and organisms to yield genetically diverse offspring that are suitable for pharmaceutical product development in the areas of antibody therapeutics, protein therapeutics, product manufacturing, drug target discovery, and improved output traits for commercial applications. The company is currently focusing its platform on the development and manufacturing of therapeutic antibodies for the treatment of cancer, inflammation and infectious disease. For more information, please visit [www.morphotek.com](http://www.morphotek.com).

### **About Eisai Corporation of North America**

Eisai Corporation of North America is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Eisai Co., Ltd., a research-based *human health care (hhc)* company that discovers, develops and markets products throughout the world. Eisai focuses its efforts in three therapeutic areas: neurology, gastrointestinal disorders and oncology/critical care. Eisai Corporation of North America supports the activities of its operating companies in North America, which include: Eisai Research Institute of Boston, Inc., a discovery operation with strong organic chemistry capabilities; Morphotek, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company specializing in the development of therapeutic monoclonal antibodies; Eisai Medical Research Inc., a clinical development group; Eisai Inc., a commercial operation with manufacturing and marketing/sales functions; and Eisai Machinery U.S.A., which markets and maintains pharmaceutical manufacturing machinery. For more information about Eisai, please visit [www.eisai.com](http://www.eisai.com).

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