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## **STELIS BIOPHARMA BEGINS CONSTRUCTION OF MULTI-PRODUCT BIOLOGICS FACILITY AT BIOXCELL BIOTECHNOLOGY PARK, JOHOR, MALAYSIA**

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**Bangalore / Kuala Lumpur, December 3, 2014:** STELIS Biopharma today announced the ground-breaking for construction of its customized, multi-product, biopharmaceutical manufacturing facility at Bio-Xcell Biotechnology Park in Nusajaya, Johor, Malaysia's premier park and ecosystem for industrial and healthcare biotechnology.

STELIS Biopharma (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Strides Arcolab Limited) and Bio-XCell had previously announced the signing of a Build and Lease agreement with Bio-XCell for the construction of the building and part of the equipment of STELIS Biopharma's 140,000 sq. foot Biologics facility, for a total project investment amount of RM201 million. (USD 60 million)

*"STELIS is pleased to commence work on its flagship biopharmaceutical facility in Malaysia. With its strong commitment to bio-economy, attractive incentives, quality infrastructure and enabling ecosystem, we are confident of making this our bio-manufacturing hub for regional and global markets"* said Joe Thomas, CEO of STELIS Biopharma, on the occasion.

The construction and fit-out of the facility is expected to be completed in 24 months and commercial operations are targeted to begin mid-2017 at Bio-XCell Park. The 140,000 sq. foot facility will incorporate "next-gen" single-use bio-processing technology with both mammalian and microbial manufacturing suites. When complete, it will be one of the few Regulated Market approvable facilities in the Region with end-to-end capability including sterile fill-finish across all formats. The facility will also house an R&D unit to conduct scale-up and process development studies.

*"The partnership with STELIS Biopharma to build a state of the art, multi-product Biologics facility from the start, is seen as a first in Bio-XCell biotechnology Park and timely given the close working relationship over the years. We are happy to see the 2nd bio-pharma project to commence in Bio-XCell Park and for the Facility to ground break over an aggressive construction timeline to see its operations in 2017. It is yet another positive step forward for the park to strengthen the value proposition of the Bio-XCell ecosystem as a regional hub for industrial bio-manufacturing and bioprocessing"* said Rizatuddin Ramli, CEO of Bio-XCell Malaysia.

STELIS Biopharma (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd., the Strides subsidiary constructing this facility, will manufacture and commercialise its internal and partnered pipeline of bio-pharmaceuticals as well as cater to the demand for high-quality contract manufacturing and clinical supplies. At peak operations, the facility will employ 180 people in R&D, Manufacturing, QA/QC, Analytical and Regulatory, of which a significant

number will be local employees. Bio-Xcell's park's strategic location in the Iskandar region of Johor with its close proximity to Singapore and access to a network of world-class seaports and airports within a short distance will help tap into the unmet regional and global demand for cost-effective biologics.

#### **ABOUT STELIS BIOPHARMA /STRIDES ARCOLAB LTD**

**Stelis Biopharma (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd** is a wholly owned subsidiary **Strides Arcolab Ltd., India.**

Strides Arcolab Limited, listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange Limited (532531) and National Stock Exchange of India Limited (STAR), is a global pharmaceutical Company headquartered in Bangalore, India that develops and manufactures a wide range of IP-led niche pharmaceutical products.

The Company has 8 manufacturing facilities presence in more than 75 countries in developed and emerging markets.

Additional information is available at the Company's website at [www.stridesarco.com](http://www.stridesarco.com).

#### **About Bio-XCell Malaysia**

Bio-XCell, a biotechnology park and ecosystem dedicated to healthcare and industrial biotechnology is being developed by Malaysian Bio-XCell Sdn Bhd, a joint venture company formed between Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation and property developer UEM Sunrise Berhad in 2009.

Bio-XCell is strategically located on 160 acres in Nusajaya, within the Iskandar region of Johor, Malaysia, and close to the border with Singapore providing global connectivity through a network of five seaports and two international airports, all within 59 km. Bio-XCell offers an environment conducive for the development and manufacturing of biologics, pharmaceuticals, bio-based/ green chemicals and other solutions to heal, fuel and green the world.

As a managed park, Bio-XCell will provide its clients and investors with a range of value added benefits including comprehensive infrastructure, high speed internet access, park maintenance and security as well as core facilities to nurture the ecosystem. Key facilities of the park include the Bio-XCell Sentral Hub and Central Utilities Facility (CUF).

Bio-XCell aspires to be a catalyst in biotechnology ecosystem in Iskandar Malaysia, with some 3,000 job opportunities expected to be created from its operation in the park. For more details or leasing inquiries, visit: <http://www.bio-xcell.my>

**For more information:**

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