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**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**PROTEA BIOSCIENCES AWARDED U.S. PATENT FOR NOVEL PROTEIN SEPARATION METHOD**

**Morgantown, West Virginia, February 9, 2010 – Protea Biosciences, Inc.**, a leading developer of new technology for pharmaceutical research, announced today that the company has been granted a U.S. Patent for a novel protein separation technology. Issued January 5, 2010, the patent is titled "Gel Electroelution and sample separation devices and associated processes" (U.S. Patent #7,641,778).

"We are pleased to have our technology recognized by the US patent office," stated Steve Turner, Protea's CEO. "Patents are the key assets of the biotechnology industry, as they represent ownership of new technology, new capabilities. We are building a global life sciences company here in West Virginia, based upon our own research, as well as the work under way in the laboratories of our scientific collaborators at West Virginia, Johns Hopkins, and George Washington Universities," Mr. Turner added.

"This technology improves the ability to achieve the separation of proteins in very small sample sizes. This is a critical area of pharmaceutical research, as proteins are the biological targets of the drug development process, and improvements in the ability to achieve separations will facilitate the discovery of new, disease-specific protein targets" Mr. Turner said.

In 2009, Protea launched its new protein recovery system, the GPR<sup>®</sup>-800, which simultaneously recovers eight intact protein samples in less than 20 minutes. Current technologies require 3-6 hours per sample with lower efficiencies. The system employs Protea's proprietary, single-use plastic microchips.

Protea Biosciences, Inc. ([www.proteabio.com](http://www.proteabio.com)) develops and commercializes new products and services for improved recovery and analysis of proteins from all types of biological samples, and applies its capabilities to pharmaceutical development partnerships. The company currently manufactures over 200 products at its Morgantown laboratory facilities, and markets to pharmaceutical, biotechnology and academic research laboratories worldwide.

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