



## **Abgenix Appoints Two New Board Members; Ken Lee and Thomas Wiggans Add Industry and Operations Perspective**

FREMONT, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 22, 2003--Abgenix, Inc. (Nasdaq:ABGX) today announced the appointment of Kenneth Lee, Jr. and Thomas Wiggans to the company's board of directors, effective immediately.

Ken Lee is a former Ernst & Young partner with over 30 years of experience advising management and boards of directors of technology-based companies. He serves as a board member of CV Therapeutics, Pozen and The North Carolina Biotechnology Industry Organization. He previously served as a Director of the Emerging Companies Section of The Biotechnology Industry Organization and the California Healthcare Institute. From January to June 2002, Mr. Lee served as President of A. M. Pappas & Associates, LLC, a venture development firm. From 1972 to December 2001, he was a partner at Ernst & Young, serving as head of their Health Sciences Investment Banking group from 2000 to 2001, as Co-Founder of their Center for Strategic Transactions from 1997 to 2000, and as Co-Chairman of their International Life Sciences Practice from 1995 to 1997. Mr. Lee currently serves on the Board of Visitors of Lenoir-Rhyne College, and the Board of Visitors of the Lineberger Cancer Center of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mr. Lee received a BA degree from Lenoir-Rhyne College and an MBA degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Thomas Wiggans adds over 25 years of operational and marketing experience to Abgenix's board. He currently serves as President, Chief Executive Officer and board member of Connetics Corporation, a biopharmaceutical company with two innovative dermatology products marketed in the US and three products in clinical trials. From February 1992 to April 1994, Mr. Wiggans served as President and Chief Operating Officer of CytoTherapeutics, a biotechnology company. Mr. Wiggans previously held various positions at Ares-Serono Group, a pharmaceutical company, including President of its U.S. pharmaceutical operations and Managing Director of its U.K. pharmaceutical operations. Mr. Wiggans is currently a director of the Biotechnology Industry Organization, as well as a member of its Executive Committee and its Emerging Company Section. He is also Chairman of the Biotechnology Institute, a non-profit educational organization. Mr. Wiggans received a BS degree in Pharmacy from the University of Kansas and an MBA degree from Southern Methodist University.

"We are pleased to add Tom and Ken to our expanded Board of Directors," said Ray Withy, Ph.D., president and chief executive officer of Abgenix. "These accomplished individuals bring broad-ranging management experience, as well as knowledge of the biopharmaceutical business to our leadership and financial team. We expect that they will play an important role in assisting Abgenix to become the partner of choice for antibody therapeutics."

### About Abgenix

Abgenix is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and manufacturing of human therapeutic antibodies. The company's antibody development platform includes a leading technology and state-of-the-art manufacturing capabilities that enable the rapid generation, selection and production of high affinity, fully human antibody product candidates to a variety of disease targets. Abgenix leverages its leadership position in human antibody technology to build a diversified product portfolio through the establishment of collaborations with multiple pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. For more information on Abgenix, visit the company's website at [www.abgenix.com](http://www.abgenix.com).

Statements made in this press release about Abgenix's technologies, product development activities, collaborative arrangements and manufacturing activities, other than statements of historical fact, and about its projected financial results, are forward-looking statements and are subject to a number of uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the statements made, including risks associated with the success of clinical trials, the progress of research and product development programs, product manufacturing, the regulatory approval process, competitive products, future capital requirements and the extent and breadth of Abgenix's patent portfolio. Please see Abgenix's public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for information about risks that may affect Abgenix.

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