

**SANGAMO BIOSCIENCES GRANTED U.S. PATENT COVERING METHODS FOR
ENGINEERING ZINC FINGER DNA-BINDING PROTEINS AND SELECTING
PREFERRED DNA BINDING SITES**

Richmond, California– September 17, 2002 – Sangamo BioSciences, Inc. (Nasdaq: SGMO) today announced that it has been granted a new patent in the United States entitled “Selection of Sites for Targeting by Zinc Finger Proteins and Methods of Designing Zinc Finger Proteins to Bind to Preselected Sites.” Issued claims cover methods for identifying target sequences, within any gene, that will serve as preferred binding sites for zinc finger DNA-binding proteins (ZFPs) and methods for designing ZFP transcription factors that bind tightly and specifically to these preferred sites.

“The granting of this patent in the U.S. further expands our comprehensive intellectual property portfolio in the field of gene regulation using engineered ZFP transcription factors for a variety of applications, including therapeutic product development,” said Edward Lanphier, Sangamo’s president and chief executive officer. “As data in this application demonstrate, the technology covered under this patent allows us to identify optimal ZFP binding sites and corresponding ZFPs for gene regulation more efficiently.”

Zinc finger DNA-binding proteins (ZFPs) are the dominant class of naturally occurring transcription factors in organisms from yeast to humans. Transcription factors, which are found in the nucleus of every cell, bind to DNA to regulate gene expression. Though there are many kinds of transcription factors, only ZFPs are amenable to engineering and precise targeting to a particular gene or genes of interest. Since the over-expression or under-expression of individual genes is the basis for many diseases, the ability to regulate genes with engineered ZFP transcription factors has enormous potential therapeutic benefit.

The inventions covered by this patent (U.S Patent No. 6,453,242) are the result of research by Sangamo scientists into improving the affinity and specificity of DNA binding by engineered zinc finger transcription factors. The enhanced affinity and specificity of ZFP binding to preferred binding sites, identified as described in this patent, lead to increased efficiency in regulation of gene expression by engineered ZFPs. This patent is the third U.S. patent granted to Sangamo and is one of 15 U.S. patents that the company currently owns or has licensed. Corresponding patents have already issued in the United Kingdom and Australia and are pending in several other international jurisdictions.

About Sangamo

Sangamo BioSciences, Inc., of Richmond, CA, is focused on the research and development of novel transcription factors for the regulation of gene expression. The company’s most advanced therapeutic development program involves the use of transcription factors for the treatment of cardiovascular disease. Other therapeutics development programs are focused on cancer and infectious diseases. Sangamo’s proprietary technology enables the engineering of transcription factors known as zinc finger DNA-binding proteins, or ZFPs. By engineering ZFPs so that they can recognize a specific gene, Sangamo has created ZFP transcription factors (ZFP TFs) that can control gene expression and, consequently, cell function. The company is developing ZFP TFs as a fundamentally enabling technology for commercial applications in human therapeutics, pharmaceutical discovery, clinical diagnostics, agriculture and industrial biotechnology. Over twenty leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies have utilized ZFP TFs. For more information about Sangamo, visit the company’s web site at www.sangamo.com.

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This press release may contain forward-looking statements based on Sangamo's current expectations. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, references to the research and development of novel ZFP TFs and applications of Sangamo's ZFP TF technology platform. Actual results may differ materially from these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including technological challenges, our ability to develop commercially viable products and technological developments by our competitors. See the company's SEC filings, and in particular, the risk factors described in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and its most recent 10-Q. Sangamo assumes no obligation to update the forward-looking information contained in this press release.

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