



ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED
億勝生物科技有限公司

Press Release

**GROUP PHARMACEUTICAL BUSINESS
RECORDED FIRST QUARTER GROWTH OF
74.3% & 44.0% IN TURNOVER AND PROFIT RESPECTIVELY**

Hong Kong, 11 May 2011 — ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED (“Essex” or the “Group” — Stock Code: 8151) today announced that the Group recorded approximately HK\$41.3 million in turnover for the period ended 31 March 2011, an increase of 74.3% over the corresponding previous quarter.

Overall gross profit for the period ended 31 March 2011 increased to approximately HK\$37.0 million when compared to approximately HK\$21.3 million recorded in the same quarter of last year.

Distribution and selling expenses increased to approximately HK\$26.3 million for the period ended 31 March 2011 when compared to approximately HK\$13.9 million recorded in the same period of last year. The increase was mainly attributable to higher expenses incurred in sales, marketing and promotional activities which are in line with the growth of pharmaceutical business in the quarter under review.

Administrative expenses increased to approximately HK\$3.3 million for the period ended 31 March 2011 as compared to approximately HK\$2.7 million recorded in the same quarter of last year. The increase was mainly caused by the increase of research and development cost and business expansion.

The Group had cash and cash equivalents of approximately HK\$74.9 million as at 31 March 2011 (2010: HK\$68.5 million). No pledged bank deposits as at 31 March 2011 and 2010.

As at 31 March 2011 and 2010, the Group has no bank and other borrowings.

In December 2010 the Group has started the construction of a new factory in Zhuhai, China, which is targeted for completion in year 2012. Upon completion, the new factory will have a total manufacturing floor space of approximately 20,000 sq.m., which will enhance the Group’s manufacturing capacity and capability going forward.

During the period under review, 貝復舒 (Beifushu), the brand-name of the Group’s flagship eye-drop product for eye wounds, has obtained 廣東省著名商標證書 (The Guangdong Famous Trademark Certificate) issued by 廣東省工商行政管理局 (Administration of Industry and Commerce of Guangzhou Municipality) effective until 23 December 2013.

As at 20 April 2011, the Company has made an application to the Stock Exchange for the transfer of listing of all its Shares from GEM to the Main Board.

Chairman Patrick Ngiam said, “The Guangdong Trade-mark award is a testament to the extensive market acceptance of Beifushu in China which is a result of over the years of relentless market cultivations. The Group will capitalise on it for greater market traction on its products.”

About Essex Bio-Technology Limited:

Essex Bio-Technology Limited (“Essex”) was listed on the Growth Enterprise Market (GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 27 June 2001, under stock code (8151).

Essex specializes in biopharmaceutical drug development based on recombinant DNA technology. It is principally engaged in the manufacture and sale of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment and healing of surface wounds and eye wounds and the research and development of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment of duodenal ulcers and nervous system damages and diseases, as well as other ophthalmic pharmaceutical projects.

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Summary of key information

	For the three months ended 31 March	
	2011	2010
	HK\$'m	HK\$'m
Turnover	41.3	23.7
Gross profit	37.0	21.3
Profit attributable to owners of the Company	6.3	4.4
Earnings per share – basic	HK1.14 cents	HK0.79 cents
Dividend	Nil	Nil
	As at 31 March 2011 HK\$'m	As at 31 March 2010 HK\$'m
Cash and cash equivalents	74.9	68.5
Bank borrowings	Nil	Nil

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