



**ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED**

**億勝生物科技有限公司**

**(Stock Code: 1061)**

**Preservative-free Single-dose Sodium Hyaluronate Eye Drops Obtained Approval from SDA for Commercialisation in China**

Hong Kong, 22 August 2018----Essex Bio-Technology Limited (“EssexBio” or the “Group”—Stock Code: 1061) is pleased to announce that Zhuhai Essex Bio-Pharmaceutical Company Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group, has obtained an approval from SDA (State Drug Administration) for the registration and commercialisation of the preservative-free single-dose Sodium Hyaluronate Eye Drops in the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”). This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> preservative-free single-dose eye drops of the Group that has obtained SDA approval. The other two preservative-free single-dose eye drops that had obtained SDA approval were Tobramycin and Levofloxacin in April 2017 (with GMP certification in March 2018) and June 2018, respectively.

The Group plans to launch all the three approved preservative-free single-dose eye drops in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2018.

The Board believes that the approved products will further enrich the Group’s ophthalmic product portfolio and would strengthen its ophthalmology segment of market positioning.

**About Sodium Hyaluronate Eye Drops**

Sodium Hyaluronate Eye Drops is extensively used for the treatment of certain endogenous ocular disease, such as Sjögren’s syndrome, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, Dry Eye Syndrome, and some kind of exogenous ocular disease, such as post-surgery injuries, drug-induced injuries, eye trauma, contact-lens-induced injuries. In addition, Sodium Hyaluronate Eye Drops has been involved in the 2017 National Drug List for Basic Medical Insurance, Work-Related Injury Insurance and Maternity

Insurance (“NDL”). According to latest data from MENET, the overall sales revenue of Sodium Hyaluronate Eye Drops in PRC has steadily grown up with a CAGR (Compound Average Growth Rate) of approximately 20% in recent three years, which makes it rank in the top 5 ocular drugs (in terms of market capacity).

### **About “Blow-Fill-Seal” Single-dose Platform**

As one of the key technology platforms of EssexBio, the Blow-Fill-Seal (“BFS”) platform is a state-of-the-art manufacturing plant for producing preservative-free single-dose drugs, in particular for the ophthalmic drugs.

Following the approval of Tobramycin, Levofloxacin and Sodium Hyaluronate preservative-free single-dose eye drops, the Group still has 7 categories of preservative-free single-dose drugs for the treatment of ocular wound healing, ocular bacterial infection, fatigue, dry eyes and respiratory disease in the research and development pipeline. It is expected that the 7 drugs would progressively obtain SDA approval within the next three (3) years.

### **About EssexBio**

Essex Bio-Technology Limited is a bio-pharmaceutical company, started in early 90's, a pioneer in bio-pharmaceutical industry in China, that develops, manufactures and commercialises genetically engineered therapeutic rb-bFGF, a basic fibroblast growth factor, with established mechanism of action in cellular proliferation, differentiation and migration.

The Company currently has five commercialised bio-pharmaceutical products, formulated with rb-bFGF, in China, out of which 3 are approved by SDA as Category I drugs. The products are being marketed & sold as Beifushu, Beifuji & Beifuxin, for treatment of ocular surface wounds and topical (skin) surface wounds respectively. Beifuji is the first in the world to have obtained approval from SDA for commercialisation in 1998.

In addition, the Group has three SDA approved preservative-free, single-dose eye drops: Tobramycin, Levofloxacin and Sodium Hyaluronate, approved in April 2017, June 2018 and August 2018, respectively.

The Company focuses on two main therapeutics, Ophthalmology and Surgical arena of topical (skin) surface wounds, which primarily covers Dermatology, Stomatology and Obstetrics & Gynaecology, while selectively pursuing therapeutics in Neurology, Oncology and Orthopaedics. The Company maintains a pipeline of multi-project in R&D and on various stages of clinical programs, of which several projects involving growth factors and antibody and a handful of projects are on unit dose for Ophthalmic and Respiratory disease.

The Company's products and its 3rd party products are marketed and sold through more than 5,600 hospitals in China and are managed directly by its 42 regional sales offices with about 1,400 sales and

marketing people. Its 3rd party products; notably are inclusive of Xalacom eye drops and Xalatan eye drops of Pfizer (for Ophthalmology), Iodized Lecithin Capsules (for Ophthalmology), Yi Xue An Granules (for Obstetrics & Gynaecology) and Carisolv Products (for Stomatology).

This press release is issued by Zhixin Investor Relations Consultant Limited on behalf of **Essex Bio-Technology Limited**.

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