



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Catylx, Inc. and Aspira Scientific Announce Joint Venture to Commercialize New Fluorination Technologies**

*Delivering novel fluorination tools for drug and material development*

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., July 31, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Catylx, Inc. (Burbank, California) and Aspira Scientific (Milpitas, California) announced today the formation of a joint venture to develop and commercialize new fluorination products and related chemistry.

Developing improved biologically active molecules has benefited from the use of substituents that are chemically stable, resistant to metabolism, and combine lipophilicity with polarity to improve binding and bioavailability. Fluorinated functional groups are particularly well-suited to accomplish these objectives, often bringing improved efficacy and metabolic stability into compounds.

Catylx, Inc. and Aspira Scientific have created a joint venture to offer new fluorine-containing building blocks and reagents to customers in the pharmaceutical, agricultural, and specialty chemical industries. Dr. David Rozzell, CEO of Catylx, commented, "Through this joint venture with Aspira, Catylx will accelerate the development of its novel fluorination technologies and fluorine-substituted building blocks. Our goal is to expand our range of fluorination products and get these new compounds more quickly into the hands of chemists who need them."

Included in the product portfolio ([www.aspirasci.com/fluorination](http://www.aspirasci.com/fluorination)) through this new joint venture will be Catylx's Trifluoromethylator® reagent for the synthesis of a wide range of CF<sub>3</sub>-containing compounds under mild reaction conditions. The broad compatibility with other functional groups allows "late-stage trifluoromethylation" during lead compound development and optimization for medicinal chemists. Dr. John Chan, CEO of Aspira stated, "The technical expertise of Catylx in fluorine chemistry together with Aspira's expertise in marketing, distribution, and production will allow rapid access of novel and unique fluorine-containing products, shortening screening and development time-lines for researchers. Aspira's access to cost-effective production facilities will ensure that these compounds will be available at economical cost structures on scale."

Dr. David Rozzell, CEO of Catylx, and Dr. John Chan, CEO of Aspira Scientific, will be available for discussions during the 2014 ACS Meeting and Exhibition in San Francisco on August 11 and 12, at Booth 1136.

## **About Aspira Scientific**

Aspira Scientific is a science-centric enterprise dedicated to empowering scientists reach their aspirations in chemical R&D. We achieve this goal through reducing the cost of basic and applied research by offering research products with superior value in terms of price and quality. By leveraging a truly global innovation ecosystem, we also make available a broader set of next-generation enabling tools for chemical synthesis. For organizations with developmental programs, we provide custom production services via “Collaborate Locally. Commercialize Globally.™” model to afford exceptional value in terms of innovation, quality and IP assurance, and cost-efficiency. For more information on realizing your scientific aspirations now and tomorrow, please visit [www.aspirasci.com](http://www.aspirasci.com).

## **About Catylix, Inc.**

Catylix, Inc. is an early-stage company specializing in the development and commercialization of new fluorination chemistry and novel products for the incorporation of fluorine-containing functionality. For more information about Catylix, please visit <http://www.catylix.com>.

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