



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MetaMorphix, Inc. Announces Board Appointment of Howard L
Minigh, Ph.D., former head of Dupont's Agriculture and Nutrition
Business**

—Agribusiness leader brings broad experience to MMI's Board —

Savage, Md., May 6, 2004—MetaMorphix, Inc. announced today that Howard L. Minigh, Ph.D., former head of Dupont's \$5 Billion Agriculture and Nutrition business and past president of American Home Products' Cyanamid Global Agricultural Products was elected to the Company's board of directors

"We are delighted to have Dr. Minigh join us", said Edwin C. Quattlebaum, Chairman and CEO of MetaMorphix, Inc. "Howard brings over 30 years of agricultural industry experience to the board and is one of the early promoters of biotechnology as a tool to dramatically transform crop production. His leadership piloted both the Dupont and American Home Products organizations through the transitions and challenges of successfully introducing biotechnology into the global marketplace. We believe that Howard's addition to the board will greatly aid MetaMorphix as it introduces its three biotechnology platforms into the global livestock production industry."

At Dupont, Minigh headed its Agriculture and Nutrition business, a portfolio that includes Pioneer Hybrid Seed, the world's largest seed company, crop protection chemicals, soy protein food ingredients, and a diagnostics business. Double-digit sales and earnings growth was achieved under Minigh's leadership, with revenues totaling near \$5 billion annually.

As president of Cyanamid's Global Agricultural Products, Minigh successfully led American Cyanamid's \$2 billion crop protection chemicals business through its 1994 acquisition by American Home Products. After 5 years of continued growth, he repositioned the business to compete in an ever-consolidating agricultural industry and divested the business to BASF for \$3.8 billion.

Minigh began his career as a process research chemist with American Cyanamid in 1974 after completing his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from West Virginia University. He held progressively responsible roles within the company including positions in research, manufacturing, sales, marketing and general management prior to becoming president of Cyanamid's agricultural division.

Late in 2003, Minigh left Dupont to pursue other interests. Currently, Minigh is a partner at Trishul Capital Group, a small private equity firm.

The appointment of Minigh continues MetaMorphix's objective to maintain a board of diverse industry leaders that speaks to the Company's various audiences.

METAMORPHIX INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Agricultural Biotechnology

Clifton Baile, Ph.D.
Eminent Scholar in Agricultural Biotechnology,
University of Georgia.
*Former Director of R&D,
Monsanto Company, Animal Health.*

Howard L. Minigh
Partner,
Trishul Capital Group.
*Former Group Vice President,
Dupont.
Former President, Cyanamid Global
Agricultural Products,
American Home Products.*

Edwin C. Quattlebaum, Ph.D.
Chairman, President & CEO,
MetaMorphix, Inc.

Investment/Financial

Fergus Reid
Chairman, J.P.Morgan/Chase Mutual Fund.
Trustee, Morgan Stanley/Dean Witter Mutual
Fund.

Ugo DeBlasi
Corporate Controller,
Applera Corporation.
Former CFO, Celera Genomics

Livestock Industry

William Buckner
President,
Excel Corporation.
Corporate Vice President,
Cargill Incorporated.

John Block
President,
Food Distributors International.
Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Peter Meyer
President,
PMI Consultants.
*Former VP Sales & Marketing,
Archer Daniels Midland, Corp.*

About MetaMorphix, Inc.

Founded in 1994 and based in Savage, Maryland, MetaMorphix, Inc. is a privately held life sciences company that uses the code of life DNA to improve the global food supply and human health. In livestock, we help our customers produce higher quality, nutritious meat more efficiently; and in healthcare, we discover and license targets to pharmaceutical companies that develop therapies for better management of metabolic and muscular degenerative diseases.

Certain statements in this press release are forward-looking. These may be identified by the use of forward-looking words or phrases such as "believe," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "should," "planned," "estimated," and "potential," among others. These forward-looking statements are based on MetaMorphix Inc.'s current expectations. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for such forward-looking statements. In order to comply with the terms of the safe harbor, MetaMorphix Inc. notes that a variety of factors could cause actual results and experience to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties that may affect the operations, performance, development, and results of MetaMorphix Inc.'s businesses include but are not limited to; (1) unproven use of scientific information to develop or commercialize products; and (2) other factors that might be described from time to time in MetaMorphix Inc.'s business plan and regulatory filings.