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WILLIAM BUCKNER STEPS DOWN FROM METAMORPHIX BOARD

BELTSVILLE, MD (October 24, 2006) – MetaMorphix, Inc. ("MetaMorphix" or the "Company") today reported that effective immediately, William Buckner, Executive Vice President of Cargill, Inc., has resigned from its board of directors as the Company embarks on negotiations with Cargill for the joint commercial launch of its beef genomics products. Mr. Buckner has stepped down from MetaMorphix' board in order to avoid any perceived conflict of interests.

Commenting on Mr. Buckner's departure, Edwin Quattlebaum, President and CEO of MetaMorphix, said, "Bill has been a valued member of our board whose industry experience provided us with sound advice and insight. He has been particularly helpful in advancing the development and commercialization of our **Genius-Whole Genome System™** technology products that improve livestock quality and production efficiency. We thank Bill for his years of service to MetaMorphix' board, and wish him continued success. "

About MetaMorphix, Inc.

MetaMorphix, Inc. is a life sciences company dedicated to discovering and commercializing multiple technology platforms to improve human and animal health. The company and its corporate partners are developing products to substantially increase livestock quality and production efficiency, to improve companion animal health, and to treat human muscle degenerative diseases and metabolic disorders utilizing MetaMorphix's animal genomics and growth and differentiation factors (GDFs) technologies. MetaMorphix is a privately held company founded in 1994 with headquarters in Beltsville, MD., and lab facilities in Davis, CA.