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## **AVIVA Starts Commercial Shipment of SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup>**

San Diego, CA – September 29, 2003 – Biochip and cell biology solution provider AVIVA Biosciences Corp. announced today that it has started the commercial shipment of SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup>, a single-use disposable product that performs automated high throughput and high quality patch clamp screenings for ion channel drug targets. SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup> will greatly accelerate high quality ion channel lead discovery for researchers in the pharmaceutical, biotech, as well as academic research communities.

SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup> is based on AVIVA Biosciences' proprietary technology platform that brings cutting-edge cell biology to microchips that are manufactured using state-of-the-art high precision fabrication processes. SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup> allows for up to 100-fold throughput improvement over the conventional patch clamp technique, while maintaining the data quality through forming and maintaining gigaohm seals. The patch clamp technique is considered the "gold standard" assays for ion channels, drug targets that are implicated in neuropathic and cardiovascular diseases, as well as diabetes, cancer, and immune system disorders.

SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup> is the first of a series of SealChip<sup>TM</sup> products from AVIVA Biosciences. SealChip<sub>16</sub><sup>TM</sup> is used with PatchXpress<sup>TM</sup> 7000, a revolutionarily engineered high-throughput patch clamp workstation provided exclusively by Axon Instrument Inc. Axon is a proven leader in low noise high quality patch clamp instrumentations, as well as high volume drug discovery platforms.

"SealChip<sup>TM</sup> and PatchXpress<sup>TM</sup> provide tremendous productivity improvement for our customers" stated Julian Yuan, president and CEO of AVIVA Biosciences, "For the first time, the pharmaceutical industry is introduced to a complete patch clamp automation solution that provides both radical throughput improvements and high fidelity screening data. SealChip<sup>TM</sup> technology is certain to become the dominant technology in this field."

Based in San Diego, California, AVIVA Biosciences Corp develops enabling drug discovery and diagnostic technologies by integrating cell biology and chemistry into biochips. AVIVA Biosciences' products unite unique surface chemistry with advanced design that are expandable into multiple applications, primarily the automation and improved productivity of cell-based research and new or improved diagnostic procedures.

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