



Contact:
Erik Miller
MDL Information Systems, Inc.
(510) 357-2222 ext. 1371
erikm@mdli.com



Molecular Networks

Contact:
Christof H. Schwab, Ph.D.
Molecular Networks GmbH
+49-9131-815670
schwab@mol-net.de

MDL AND MOLECULAR NETWORKS PARTNER TO INCLUDE CORINA 3D MODELS IN MDL DATABASES

—Free AIDS Database is First Product Release—

SAN LEANDRO, California and ERLANGEN, Germany—**March 15, 2001**—MDL Information Systems, Inc., the recognized leader in discovery informatics for the life sciences and chemistry in industry and academia, and Molecular Networks GmbH, makers of the premium three-dimensional molecular model-generating program CORINA, announced today that new versions of MDL databases will feature CORINA-generated models. By replacing the existing structural models in its content databases, MDL will provide researchers with a more complete and realistic set of searchable models in an industry-standard format.

CORINA software generates low energy conformation, three-dimensional atomic coordinates from a molecule's connection table data. CORINA converts a higher rate of two-dimensional structures than other programs, and is applicable to the entire range of organic chemistry as well as many organometallic compounds.

"By switching to CORINA-generated models, MDL databases will offer enhanced three-dimensional searching for biomedical and chemical researchers," says Phil McHale, vice president of marketing for MDL. "Now scientists can expect more hits for a given query and more realistic hit geometries."

Professor Johann Gasteiger of Molecular Networks adds, "We're very pleased with the inclusion of CORINA models into MDL databases. Molecular Networks has already built strong relationships with a number of international chemical and pharmaceutical

companies. But for MDL to adopt our technology is further confirmation of CORINA as the industry benchmark.”

CORINA Models in New AIDS Database

The first product from MDL to incorporate CORINA models is the NCI AIDS Database, which contains information on selected compounds found to be active in the National Cancer Institute's AIDS antiviral screen. In an effort to aid discovery of new compounds capable of inhibiting the HIV virus, MDL is providing the AIDS Database to researchers at no charge so they can access this data in the industry-standard ISIS (Integrated Scientific Information System) format. Researchers can obtain a free copy of the AIDS database by contacting an MDL sales office. One of the next MDL databases to incorporate CORINA models will be the widely used Available Chemicals Directory (ACD). Other MDL databases will be updated with CORINA models as new content is added.

About Molecular Networks. Founded in 1997, Molecular Networks GmbH has garnered a worldwide reputation for the development and distribution of software for the chemical and biomolecular sciences. For more information about CORINA and other products and services for the pharmaceutical and chemical industries, visit www.mol-net.de.

About MDL. MDL Information Systems ("MDL") is the recognized leader in discovery informatics for the life sciences and chemistry in industry and academia. Our software, content, and services provide the enterprise-wide discovery informatics framework for comprehensive and successful discovery research. We are an international business headquartered in San Leandro, CA with offices worldwide. MDL Information Systems, Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Elsevier Science, Inc. For more information, visit www.mdli.com.

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