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**STELAR AND HTS-110 FORMALIZE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
IN MAGNETIC RESONANCE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

Stelar S.r.l., based in Italy, and HTS-110 Ltd, based in New Zealand, both leading-class companies in magnetic resonance technology, announced at the recent European Molecular Imaging Meeting (EMIM) 2013, in Turin, Italy, their collaboration for development of exciting new Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) products. This will bring together their complementary technologies to provide an innovative product to enhance the research capabilities of the scientific community and open new exciting application areas.

The two companies will use their know-how and expertise in cryogen-free superconducting magnets and specialized technology developed for NMR relaxometry and Fast Field Cycling NMR to develop new integrated solutions for industrial and research applications.

The integration of Stelar NMR Fast Field Cycling technology with HTS-110's variable field cryogen-free superconducting magnet will allow the extension of the measurement of the field dependence of spin relaxations up to the field strength of the latest generation of clinical MRI scanners.

Professor Silvio Aime, the President of the European Molecular Imaging Society and a well-known expert in the field of molecular imaging and development of new contrast agents, commented at the announcement of the collaboration, "This is a particularly important development in the technology for the study of relaxivity of paramagnetic compounds, such as MRI contrast agents. The properties of these important compounds can now be studied over an extended range of magnetic field strengths which is important for their characterization, especially now that 3 tesla MRI systems are more widely used in the clinical settings."

Gianni Ferrante, CEO of Stelar remarked "The Stelar and HTS-110 combined system will allow the full profiling of these agents, creating the perfect instrument for analysis of contrast agents or for other applications requiring spin relaxation times at higher magnetic field strengths."

Donald Pooke, CTO of HTS-110 added "The compact form and capability for variable field make the HTS magnet a very attractive partner for Stelar's unique magnetic resonance know-how. The combination of the two technologies will open up new measurement possibilities which will be developed by this collaboration."

The two companies intend to address new challenges to offer solutions for a wider range of uses, particularly in industrial process settings, with adaptability for use at-line, in-line, or in the field. The compact size and robustness of these systems will allow them to be deployed in areas where previously using NMR was highly impractical.

Stelar and HTS-110 will focus on offering products which cover a comprehensive magnetic field strength range, from Earth field upwards, and a combination of complementary NMR techniques giving information on molecular dynamics, molecular structure and imaging. Indeed a single instrument giving the possibility of combining high field relaxometry with Field Cycling NMR and NMR spectroscopy or Field Cycling NMR with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), opens up a whole new world of applications.

The collaboration announcement between Stelar and HTS-110 made at the EMIM conference was introduced by Clare Louise Wilson, the New Zealand Consul General and Trade Commissioner (Milan, Italy), who has a role in facilitating trade between businesses in Italy and New Zealand. Clare commented "It is a pleasure to see that two small, highly specialized companies at opposite ends of the globe are able to work well together to offer an integrated, unique product with a worldwide sales potential."

About the companies

Stelar S.r.l. is the world leader in instrumentation for Fast Field Cycling NMR Relaxometry. The company holds proprietary know-how and has extensive experience in NMR instrumentation. Stelar is privately owned. www.stelar.it

HTS-110 is the only company in the world to exclusively use High Temperature Superconductors in the design and manufacture of high field electromagnets for synchrotrons, research labs, and industrial applications since 2004. Together with its partners, this expertise is now used to develop instruments such as NMR and MRI. Key shareholders in HTS-110 are Scott Technology (www.scott.co.nz), Callaghan Innovation (www.callaghaninnovation.co.nz), and AMSC (www.amsc.com).

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