

For Immediate Release:  
March 31, 2015

## **Hairpin Technologies Inc. Executes Exclusive, Worldwide Licensing Agent Agreement with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory to Expand Commercial Distribution and Research Use of Short Hairpin RNA (shRNA)**

*Hairpin Technologies to Lead Marketing, Corporate Outreach and Out-Licensing Efforts on Behalf of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory*

**Ronkonkoma, NY; March 31, 2015:** Hairpin Technologies Inc. announced today that it has executed an exclusive, worldwide Licensing Agent Agreement with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) to expand the commercial distribution and research use of short hairpin RNA (shRNA). The Licensing Agent Agreement with CSHL provides Hairpin Technologies with the sole authority to negotiate and execute license agreements with potential licensees of the relevant U.S. and international patents covering the shRNA technology. Under the agreement, Hairpin Technologies will lead ongoing marketing, corporate outreach and out-licensing efforts on behalf of CSHL. The Licensing Agent Agreement establishes performance milestones and reporting requirements, and provides for Hairpin Technologies and CSHL to share licensing revenue generated from commercial distributors and end-users of the technology.

Invented by Dr. Gregory Hannon, Professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator at CSHL, shRNA is a versatile research tool used in functional genomics and drug discovery which can be used to silence target gene expression to help elucidate biological function and identify novel drug targets. The technology is particularly useful in determining the role of specific genes in disease, allowing researchers to observe what happens when these genes are turned off. In addition to determining how these genes function, shRNA may also help scientists identify and validate novel drug targets for which new pharmaceuticals can be developed. The technology is already commercially available from a number of authorized distributors with existing non-exclusive license agreements to make, market and sell shRNA, including [Cellecta](#), [GE Healthcare](#), [Mirimus](#) and [TransOMIC](#). Pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies of all sizes, as well as contract research organizations which utilize shRNA, are also required to obtain a non-exclusive license from CSHL for approved access to the relevant intellectual property.

Mr. Paul Sheiffele, Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Hairpin Technologies, stated, “Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory is an internationally-recognized and world-renown research institution that is consistently at the forefront of scientific discovery.” He added, “We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to represent this important research tool, and we look forward to working with industry partners to enhance its adoption in research and drug discovery.”

Ms. Teri Willey, Vice President, Business Development and Technology Transfer at CSHL, commented, “We are excited to work closely with Hairpin Technologies to expand the number of commercial entities authorized to use shRNA.”

Mr. Michael Bielski, Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Hairpin Technologies, stated, “The licensing terms for distributors and end-users are relatively straightforward and inexpensive, and these agreements provide manufacturers, distributors and end-users with the confidence that they are appropriately

authorized to utilize shRNA.” He added, “I encourage interested parties to contact Hairpin Technologies if they think they need a license, or if they have any questions about whether they are in compliance.”

Mr. Joseph Scaduto, Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Hairpin Technologies, commented, “Our team looks forward to engaging commercial distributors and end-users of the shRNA technology, and we are grateful for the opportunity to represent Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in this endeavor.”

**About Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory:** Celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory has shaped contemporary biomedical research and education with programs in cancer, neuroscience, plant biology and quantitative biology. Home to eight Nobel Prize winners, the private, not-for-profit Laboratory is more than 600 researchers and technicians strong. The Meetings & Courses Program hosts more than 12,000 scientists from around the world each year on its campuses in Long Island and in Suzhou, China. The Laboratory’s education arm also includes an academic publishing house, a graduate school and programs for middle and high school students and teachers. For more information, visit [www.cshl.edu](http://www.cshl.edu).

**About Hairpin Technologies:** Hairpin Technologies Inc. was founded in 2015 to expand the commercial distribution and research use of short hairpin RNA (shRNA), a versatile biomedical research and drug discovery tool invented at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL). As the exclusive licensing agent of CSHL, the mission of Hairpin Technologies is to negotiate and execute license agreements with manufacturers, distributors and end-users of the shRNA technology, which is protected by a robust portfolio of U.S. and international patents. In this capacity, Hairpin Technologies leads ongoing marketing, corporate outreach and out-licensing efforts to identify and engage potential licensees on behalf of CSHL. For more information, visit [www.hairpintechnologies.com](http://www.hairpintechnologies.com).