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**For Immediate Release:**

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## **VelQuest awarded US Patent 6,681,198 for Process-Linked Data Management System**

Hopkinton, MA February 1, 2004 – VelQuest® Corporation, the market leader providing Automated Compliance Solutions to the FDA Regulated Industries, announced today it has received U.S. Patent 6,681,198 for “Process-Linked Data Management System”, continuing its leadership position in the market.

The patented technology, which is incorporated into the ePMC™ (electronic Process Management and Compliance) Operating System supporting SmartLab™ Applications for Laboratory Operations and SmartShell™ Applications for 21 CFR Part 11 Remediation Challenges, insures that data meets pre-requisite requirements before recording thus reducing review time and rework loops providing the potential for FDA Regulated Companies’ to save millions of dollars.

The VelQuest ePMC Operating System, SmartLab Applications, and SmartShell 21 CFR Part 11 Remediation Software are key components of pharmaceutical and life science company strategies to save millions of dollars by automating paper-based compliant operations and remediating existing validated instruments and applications for 21 CFR Part 11 without major upgrades.

"With this patent and other patent filings", says Bill Buote, Chief Technical Officer, "VelQuest continues to strengthen its position as a leader in bringing innovative solutions addressing the compliance needs of life science companies. The patent award by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office demonstrates that technologies developed by VelQuest Corporation are unique."

In addition, this issuance of the patent will allow VelQuest to broaden its market reach through strategic partners utilizing the patented technology.

About VelQuest Corporation:

The VelQuest electronic Process Management & Compliance (ePMC™) Operating System is an innovative software platform designed to provide the foundation for compliance based activities in the Life Science Markets. The Operating System provides an automated Security Manager, Instrument Manager, Records Manager, and Reporting Engine. The ePMC Operating System embraces the FDA's "cGMPs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A Risk Based Approach" initiative providing the basis for the company's SmartLab™ Applications for a fully compliant electronic laboratory, SmartShell™ 21 CFR Part 11 Remediation Software, and future product line extensions from VelQuest Corporation.

Founded in January 1999 by a management and technology team richly experienced in laboratory instruments and automation, VelQuest Corporation provides a growing suite of unique products to transform regulated industries from labor-intensive, paper-based operations to automated efficient operations with greater confidence in their compliance than ever before possible.

For additional information, please contact: **Joan Milne**, VelQuest Corporation, 508-497-9911, [www.velquest.com](http://www.velquest.com), VelQuest, SmartLab, SmartShell and ePMC are trademarks of VelQuest Corporation.