



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
VelQuest Corporation
John P. Helfrich
Phone: 508-497-0128
john.helfrich@velquest.com
www.velquest.com

Announcing SmartLab™ Version 3.0 -- 21st Century Compliance and Productivity Platform for Paperless cGMP Lab Operations

New software provides analytical and QC labs in cGMP environments with compliant high volume test method calculations and reporting automation with IT system integration tools, to reduce overall QC/QA cycle times for lot and batch release of pharmaceutical products.

Hopkinton, MA, December 14, 2004 - VelQuest Corporation, the developer of SmartLab, the only "method-centric" automated lab compliance software platform, announced today the release of SmartLab Version 3.0. "With SmartLab³, quality control and analytical development labs in regulated environments can eliminate the non-value added and often error prone paper-based processes, and improve lot and batch cycle times to product release by 30-50% ", said Bill Buote, Chief Technology Officer of VelQuest. Through this new platform architecture, SmartLab³ users can realize the value of a single click of the mouse button to improve lab productivity and reduce operational QC/QA costs, ensure compliance with cGMP requirements at the test-method level, and provide an interoperable data management platform for seamless integration of all existing IT technologies used in the QC/QA lab environment.

With the release of SmartLab³, users can now execute blocks of calculations, carbon copying, and record transfers, significantly improving ease of use and reducing data collection and review cycle times. Initial users report dramatic elimination of time to produce reports and perform calculations specifically with regards to CDS (Chromatography Data Systems) which is traditionally a manual process", said Ken Rapp, President and CEO of VelQuest. A new "pick and choose" search environment completely eliminates the labor intensive paper output. In addition, Version 3.0 provides all critical method data records to be accessed by QA reviewers in a new data pivot table to streamline method/process investigations and audits. Users report a 50-70% reduction in supervisory and peer review times.

About SmartLab

Since 1999, VelQuest Corporation has developed and installed a unique and patented process to embed an automated data capture software application within a company's existing paper-based SOPs or test methods. In doing this, the software presents only the approved method to the analyst/operator on a local PC or hand-held tablet

PC, and captures all of the critical data created during the process of implementing a method on the lab or process floor. Data elements include method preparation data (reagent info, weighing operations, etc.), analytical instrument data (chromatography and spectroscopy), and analyst or operator observations (color, texture etc.).

The SmartLab software takes your existing written protocols (methods or SOPs) and presents them as an electronic version with embedded data capture technology. Analysts and operators interact with the digitized SOP through PCs or hand-held tablet PCs that force data entry/capture either manually or automatically (directly from instruments). This technology is often referred to as a "QA/QC Operation e-Notebook". At the end of the process, *all* of the data is automatically aggregated in a reviewer screen with the data flagged for specifications and directly linked to the original data source. Raw data files are automatically captured and organized in a secure repository for future needs. Access to the SmartLab platform is controlled via a secure and granular privilege grid with full audit trails and electronic signature capabilities, providing full compliance with the FDA's 21CFR Part 11 regulations. The result data is fully accessible to any authorized member of the management team. Customized reports, including Certificates of Analysis for batch release documents, can then be automatically created and approved. Data and trending reports can also be exported to other in-house IT programs through a universal XML-based data exchange facility. In many respects, this technology represents the "process analytical technology" (PAT) applied to QC laboratory processes.

SmartLab³ is available for upgrades or new installations immediately.

About VelQuest

Founded in January, 1999, VelQuest Corporation provides a suite of configurable off-the-shelf software products to help transition regulated industries from labor-intensive, paper-based operations to automated, efficient systems with greater confidence in compliance than ever before possible.

The SmartLab™ solution uses VelQuest's electronic Process Management & Compliance (PMCTM) Core Operating System, an innovative "method-centric" software automation platform designed to provide the foundation for compliance-based activities in the life science markets. The software embraces the FDA's "cGMP's for the 21st Century: A Risk Based Approach" initiative, and supports the company's SmartLab Applications for a fully compliant electronic laboratory, SmartShell™ 21 CFR Part 11 instrument and application remediation software, and SmartBatch™ electronic Batch Record System.

For more information, visit the Web site at www.velquest.com

Contact:

VelQuest Corporation

John P. Helfrich

Phone: 508-497-0128

john.helfrich@velquest.com

www.velquest.com