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INSIGHT THROUGH *IN VIVO* IMAGING™

Larry McDowell joins VisualSonics as VP, Sales

Seasoned Life Sciences Executive Brings 20+ Years Experience in Sales of Research Instrumentation and Reagents

Toronto, Ontario – December 13, 2006 – In support of its growing sales efforts globally, VisualSonics, the world's leading developer of high-resolution, ultrasound-based, *in vivo* micro-imaging systems, announced Larry McDowell has joined the company as Vice President, Sales. Larry will be responsible for managing and growing North American and European sales and applications support efforts for VisualSonics' Vevo® instrumentation and MicroMarker™ contrast agent kits.

Larry comes to VisualSonics from Roche Diagnostics Corporation where he was Vice President Sales and Marketing for Roche Applied Sciences managing sales, marketing and technical support efforts. Larry's 25 years of progressive sales, sales management and marketing management responsibilities of both capital equipment and reagents in the life sciences industry include previous roles as Area Vice President for Corporate Accounts at Fisher Scientific, Vice President of Sales for Baxter Healthcare Corporation's Industrial and Life Sciences Division, and Vice President of Sales and General Manager for AMSCO Scientific.

"Larry's extensive experience in developing sales teams in the academic and pharmaceutical verticals will complement our expansion as a company to meet the growing demand for our Vevo micro-ultrasound systems," says VisualSonics President and CEO Tom Little. "In addition, Larry has strong capabilities in developing sales teams and processes to support both instrumentation and reagents. This is a perfect complement to our product mix which now includes both Vevo systems and MicroMarker™ contrast agent kits allowing enhanced functional imaging and molecular imaging for quantification of biomarkers."

About VisualSonics

VisualSonics is the world's leading developer of high-resolution, ultrasound-based, *in vivo* micro-imaging systems designed specifically for non-invasive preclinical research. The company's enabling micro-ultrasound technology, the Vevo 770, allows researchers at the world's most prestigious pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, hospitals and research centers to conduct genetic research, phenotypic study and drug development.

Micro-ultrasound is the fastest growing preclinical imaging modality. This enabling technology is facilitating research in cardiac and vascular disease, cancer, stem cell research and developmental biology. When compared to other imaging options, only micro-ultrasound has the combination of high-resolution, real-time imaging, *in vivo* detection and analysis, reasonable cost, ease-of-use, portability and no negative biological effects. More information on VisualSonics can be found at www.visualsonics.com.

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