# Automating Cell Biology

Annual general meeting, September 7, 2015

Phase Holographic Imaging <u>www.phiab.se</u>



# PHASE HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGING (PHI)

- Began as a research project at Lund University, Sweden, in 2000
- Founded in 2004
- Sales in 2014/15: 2.7 (1.4) MSEK
- Over 40 units in operation at customers and key opinion leaders
- 12 granted patents
- Number of employees: 11
- Publically traded since 2014
- Website: <u>www.phiab.se</u>

PHI leads the ground-breaking development of time-lapse cytometry instrumentation and software. With the first instrument introduced in 2011, the company today offers a range of products for long-term quantitative analysis of living cell dynamics that circumvent the drawbacks of traditional methods requiring toxic stains.

Headquartered in Lund, Sweden, PHI trades through a network of international distributors. Committed to promoting the science and practice of time-lapse cytometry, PHI is actively expanding its customer base and scientific collaborations in cancer research, inflammatory and autoimmune diseases, stem cell biology, gene therapy, regenerative medicine and toxicological studies.



# WHAT IS CELL CULTURE?

- Experiments using cultured cells is the cornerstone of drug development and preclinical research
- Such experiments are the only opportunity to work on human cells before clinical trials
- In specialized cell laboratories, cells are artificially cultured in plastic containers inside a cell incubator



Cell culturing in a cell incubator





Cell culture preparation

# CELL ANALYSIS



- To understand biological processes scientist study cultured cells using cell analysis, often after treating the cells with a drug
- Technical limitations of the past has led to that scientists predominantly observe cells when fixed and dead – *fixed cell analysis*
- Live cell analysis allows investigation of dynamic processes of living cells instead of only providing a "snapshot" of a cell's current state
- To characterize cellular behavior, cells are commonly *labeled* with chemicals or genetic modifications which emit light
- However, these labels are toxic and alter the natural behavior of cells
- Scientists therefore increasingly move to live cell analysis without using toxic labels, enabling repeated observations of the same cells over time *label-free live cell analysis*



# "

Intoxicated humans do not display their natural behavior. The same applies to their building blocks – cells



### "Cell Analysis Flourishes Scientifically, Prospers Commercially" Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology news, 2015

"The global market is estimated to be valued at \$8.7 billion USD in 2013 and will grow at a CAGR of 11.1% from 2013 to 2018" Cell-based Assays Market by Product, Application, End-user, Markets & Markets, 2014

Estimated number of labs performing cell analysis worldwide = 126 804 The Market for Cell-based Assays, Bioinformatics, gene2drug.com, 2015



# KEY MARKET TRENDS

- Rising incidence of cancer and neurodegenerative diseases propel the cell analysis market
- Advancements in biotechnology, optics, electronics and image analysis continue to create market opportunities
- Need for standardization and maintaining cell viability/optimal environment drive automation of cell culture systems
- Integration of microfluidics and nanobiotechnology with microscopy imaging platforms enables scientists to conduct more biologically relevant investigations, unattainable with conventional techniques
- Increased use of 3D cell culture methods drives the need for new analytical imaging technologies

Present and future cell culturing. Labon-a-chip technology allows cells to be cultured in a micro-environment.





# TARGET CUSTOMERS



Academic Research

• Every academic lab involved in cell based preclinical research

Pharmaceutical

- Mechanism of action studies
- Secondary screening
- Toxicology
- Bio-production



Biotechnology

- Every company attempting to automate cell culturing process
- Every company performing cell-culture experiments (including household, cosmetics, tobacco, etc.)

# END-POINT VS. TIME-LAPSE CELL ANALYSIS



- Fixed cell analysis and the limitations of labeled live cell analysis has led to that most cell culture based experiments are only analyzed at the end of the experiment *end-point cell analysis*
- Label-free live cell analysis allows cell culture based experiments to be continuously monitored and analyzed through out the experiment *time-lapse cell analysis*



### Transition from end-point to time-lapse cell analysis

Time-lapse microscopy allows cell based preclinical research to transition from end-point to time-lapse cell analysis

### End-point cell analysis

- Single observation at the end of the experiment
- One cell culture  $\rightarrow$  one data point
- Analysis of dead cells



### Time-lapse cell analysis

- Multiple observations during the experiment
- One cell culture → multiple data points
- Analysis of living cells



Quantifying over time is crucial for a full understanding of cell systems. I am convinced that time-lapse microscopy will enable the next level of insight

Prof. Timm Schroeder, ETH Zurich

# TIME-LAPSE MICROSCOPY

- Modern computer technology makes it in principle very easy to record time-lapse microscopy movies of living cells
- However, the nature of cells and limitations of conventional microscopes make time-lapse recording and analysis challenging in practice
  - 1. Cultured cells quickly die outside an incubator environment
  - 2. To keep the cells in focus some type of autofocus is needed
  - 3. Toxic stains are needed to automatically track cells
  - 4. Cytometric software is needed to process the huge amount of data in time-lapse movies
  - 5. Toxic stains are needed to quantitatively observe molecular specificity

Microscope type	Cost (K USD)	1	2	3	4	5
Conventional	+10					
Low-end time-lapse	~10	$\checkmark$				
High-end time-lapse	+100	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$			
Phase Holographic Imaging	20 -	V	V	V	٧	V

### Addressed issues



## HOLOMONITOR M4 Label-free live cell analysis



- Addresses issues 1-4
- Over 40 units in operation with customers and key opinion leaders
  - Harvard and Northeastern University, Boston
  - University of California, San Francisco
  - Israel Institute for Biological Research
  - For additional users see <u>www.phiab.se/publications/users</u>
- After customer feedback several pilot builds have been manufactured
- Production will move into series production in Q3 2015
- For additional product information see <u>www.phiab.se/products/products</u>

The HoloMonitor platform offers unique 4-dimensional imaging capabilities that greatly enhance our understanding of both functions, which was previously unachievable by other technologies

Ed Luther, Northeastern University, Boston





- Addresses issues 1-5
- Cell biologists use fluorescent labels to identify biochemical compounds
- Fluorescent labels are activated by light of a specific wavelength. These labels are toxic, especially when activated
- By combining HoloMonitor technology with fluorescence detection capabilities, the activation of fluorescent labels can be dramatically reduced to minimize the toxic effect on cell behavior
- HoloMonitor M5 is being developed in collaboration with Lund University. Funding is provided by the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet)
- HoloMonitor M4 + fluorescent capability = HoloMonitor M5



# COMPETITION



### Addressed issues

Microscope type	Cost (K USD)	1: Incubator environment	2: Autofocus	3: No toxic stains needed to track cells	4: Cytometric software	5: No toxic stains needed to observe molecular specificity
Conventional	+10					
Low-end time-lapse	~10	$\checkmark$				
High-end time-lapse	+100	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$			
Competing holographic	~50 -100		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
HoloMonitor M4	20-35	V	٧	V	V	
HoloMonitor M5		V	٧	V	V	$\checkmark$
Microscope type	Supplie	rs				

Conventional

Low-end time-lapse

High-end time-lapse

Competing holographic

Nikon, Olympus, Zeiss

Small technology companies (NanoEntek, Etaluma, CytoMate) Nikon, Olympus, Zeiss, Thermo Fisher, GE Healthcare Small technology companies (Ovizio, Lynceé Tec, NanoLive)



- Dedicated cell analysis software is a key competitive advantage
- Current version is stable and <u>very</u> appreciated by customers. Few issues have been reported by customers
- Development focus on facilitating distributed data analysis to provide additional revenue source

Multiple Hstudio licenses for distributed data analysis



# CONSUMABLES PIPELINE



- To take full advantage of time-lapse cell analysis a new generation of cell culture vessels is needed
- Conventional cell culture vessels are designed for end-point cell analysis
- PHI is currently developing a new generation of cell culture vessels and other consumables
- Key to the long term profitability
- Makes HoloMonitor technology more convenient to use





The PHI petri dish lid eliminates disturbances from condensation droplets and surface vibrations

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 2 registered trademarks, HoloMonitor and HoloMetrics
- 6 patent families
- 12 granted patents

### METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HOLOGRAPHIC REFRACTOMETRY

Patent	Country	Expiry date	Patent	Country	Expiry date	
4 739 214	Japan	2024-Oct-07	ZL200680048900.7	China	2026-Dec-22	
1 676 121	Denmark	2024-Oct-07	5 182 945	Japan	2026-Dec-22	
1 676 121	France	2024-Oct-07	7 948 632	USA	2027-Sep-30	
60 2004 030 928.1	Germany	2024-Oct-07				
1 676 121	The Netherlands	2024-Oct-07	METHOD FOR AND USE (	DE DIGITAL HOLOGRAPH		
1 676 121	Sweden	2024-Oct-07	AND IMAGING ON LABELLED CELL SAMPLES			
	Switzerland-					
1 676 121	Liechtenstein	2024-Oct-07	Patent	Country	Expiry date	
1 676 121	UK	2024-Oct-07	8 937 756	USA	2030-Feb-09	



### METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF CELLS



- Establish HoloMonitor technology through
  - initial sales in key markets: US, Germany, Switzerland, UK, Japan and China
  - collaborations with key opinion leaders
- Expand use of technology through Centers of Excellence in life science hotspots
  - Boston, San Diego, San Francisco
  - London, Basel, Heidelberg
  - Tokyo
- To create visibility in the US, establish direct PHI presence in the Boston area
- Complete development of HoloMonitor M5 and consumables pipeline
- Seek global distribution through major life science tools companies
- Divest business when substantial market traction has been achieved

# SUMMARY





- PHI's technology allows cell based preclinical research to transition from end-point to time-lapse cell analysis
- The global market is estimated to be valued at \$8.7 billion USD
- Company sales in 2014/15: 2.7 (1.4) MSEK
- Over 40 units in operation at customers and key opinion leaders
- Production moves into series production in Q3 2015
  - Exit strategy
    - increase sales,
    - expand strategic marketing and
    - divest the business

# Pholographic Imaging

Time-lapse cytometry for biologists, by biologists

# Thank You

www.phiab.se