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PRESS RELEASE



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[MINNEAPOLIS, MN] — Evia Bio, a life sciences tools and services company that provides expertise in optimizing cryopreservation practices and develops non-DMSO cryopreservation solutions for the cell therapy and in vitro fertilization industries, announced that Jeffrey Allen has been named Executive Chairman. He joined Evia Bio effective March 25, 2024.

In addition, Christiaan Engstrom, who has served as CEO of Evia Bio since 2022 will be stepping down to pursue other interests. Mr. Engstrom has been instrumental in advancing the efforts of Evia Bio over the last two years. Most notably, he led the company rebranding from BlueCube Bio to Evia Bio and has enhanced the awareness of the company's best-in-class cryopreservation practices across the industry. He also has been an outstanding promoter of growth and collaboration through CryoChats, a monthly gathering of global stakeholders interested in cryopreservation practices. Mr. Engstrom is transitioning his responsibilities to Mr. Allen, who will now also serve as interim CEO effective May 13, 2024.

Mr. Allen will guide the strategic direction of the organization, working with and building upon the vision and expertise of Allison Hubel, PhD, Founder and Chief Scientific Officer. He will be particularly focused on supporting the efforts of clinical and scientific organizations – including CDMOs, drug developers and IVF clinics – to optimize practices in cryopreservation to ensure the very best outcomes, while also advocating for DMSO-free cryopreservation solutions for specific, appropriate cell types.

Mr. Allen has held a number of leadership positions across the life sciences spectrum in his career. Most notably, he served as CEO of Cellero, a private equity-backed cell therapy company comprised of two founder-owned portfolio companies. After successfully guiding the tremendous growth and sale of the business to Charles River Labs (CRL), he consulted for a number of cell therapy organizations before being recruited back to CRL to lead their Cell Solutions business. Previously, Mr. Allen also held a number of leadership positions with Baxter Healthcare and with several transfusion medicine companies. He now serves as a strategic advisor and Board consultant in the life sciences field. Mr. Allen has a B.S. in Finance from Northern Illinois University and MBA from University of California Irvine.

“We are very grateful for Christiaan’s leadership over the last two years, and we are very excited to have Jeff join our team now to provide strong governance, strategic direction and acceleration of our growth priorities”, said Dr. Hubel. “We are uniquely positioned with our talented team of PhD scientists to optimize the cryopreservation practices of companies across the continuum of research and development, and ultimately ensure the highest levels of retention and functionality of all cell types.”

About Evia BIO

Evia Bio™ is a life science innovation company enabling the growing cell therapy market. We provide new non-DMSO cryopreservation solutions developed by world-leading cryobiologist, Allison Hubel, PhD. We partner with cell therapy companies looking to advance their products to clinical trials and commercialization. Our solutions unlock the full potential of emerging life-saving therapies through the use of all-natural organic compounds to protect the integrity of cells during cryopreservation and patient safety at the point of care.