



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Peak Ridge AgTech Fund Makes First Venture Capital Investment *Rapid Diagnostek Receives Funding*

MADISON, Wisconsin - JANUARY 26, 2010 – Peak Ridge Capital announced today that one of its venture capital funds, the Peak Ridge AgTech Fund, has made its first equity investment in agricultural technology company, Rapid Diagnostek Inc.

The initial investment is a \$4M USD, Series B, syndicated investment, of which the AgTech Fund was the lead investor. Rapid Diagnostek is a privately-held diagnostics company based in Hudson, WI and focused on the use of proprietary microelectronic biosensor technology for initial use in animal and food diagnostics. The testing device is a handheld instrument that can read a specimen sample and determine the presence of a given target bacteria or illness. Results are generated in 60 seconds and can be transmitted electronically to any location. The technology, unlike many of its competitors, is affordable and can test for any number of biomarkers. Rapid's platform technology can also expand well beyond the agricultural arena into human diagnostics, biowarfare, environmental and food safety testing; markets which are expected to total \$14 billion. Its entry into the agricultural arena will be the first because it lacks many of the regulatory requirements and reimbursement hurdles found in human diagnostics.

"The investment in Rapid Diagnostek is consistent with what we envisioned when we created the AgTech Fund," said Michael McNally, Chairman and CEO of Peak Ridge Capital. "The company is highly scalable, provides an invaluable solution to real-world problems in the agricultural industry and also has the ability to be highly valuable in other industries."

Harry Norris, CEO of Rapid Diagnostek, added, "We are pleased to have a global firm like Peak Ridge Capital leading this round of investments. We believe our unique diagnostic technology platform will be increasingly important for the development of innovative, new diagnostics products in the agricultural industry, and also has the ability to be broadly applied in other vertical markets. We are very excited to have Peak Ridge as a partner and to be able to tap into their contacts and resources."

McNally has also joined the Board of Directors of Rapid Diagnostek. "Rapid has one of the greatest market opportunities that we have seen in recent years. It's a disruptive technology and has the potential to be transformational and to revolutionize the medical testing process, globally. I'm excited about the opportunity to help grow this company to its full potential."

The Peak Ridge AgTech Fund is a private equity fund focusing on financing innovation in agriculture, clean technologies and biofuels. The Fund invests in companies with key agricultural technologies that provide solutions in areas of food supply, lowering cost of production and improving efficiency in the supply chain. In addition to the agricultural supply-side, the Fund is also investing in clean technologies, as well as chemicals, systems and improvements in the biofuel process.

About Peak Ridge Capital:

Peak Ridge Capital is an alternative asset management firm that focuses on providing truly unique investment products to its diverse investor base. Our goal is not driven by simply amazing assets under management but rather, to provide uncorrelated returns while at all times limiting overall risk and market exposure. We achieve this goal by bringing together the brightest minds in each specific asset class and trading strategy to ensure that we meet all of our investors' expectations and desired investment objectives. For more information about Peak Ridge Capital, please visit [www.peakridgecapital.com](http://www.peakridgecapital.com).

About Rapid Diagnostek:

Rapid Diagnostek, Inc. has developed a patented, inexpensive, easy to use sensor appropriate for detecting bacteria, viruses, spores and disease biomarkers. Markets of opportunity include human and veterinary diagnostic, environmental, biohazard, bioterrorism, agricultural, commodity and food safety testing. For more information about Rapid Diagnostek, please visit [www.rapiddiagnostek.com](http://www.rapiddiagnostek.com).

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