Harker BIO LLC - (Buffalo, NY at the Hauptman Woodward Medical Research Institute, HWI), August 21st – today announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Dr. Paul Sargeant as CEO, effective immediately.

Dr. Sargeant comes to HarkerBIO from Lucidity Inc., a full-service management consulting firm serving global clients in the life science sectors with strategy, marketing and commercial launch services, where he served as CEO. Prior to this, Dr. Sargeant worked globally for over 18 years in hi-tech biomedical sectors with senior commercial and product development roles at Tripos, Medtronic, TerumoBCT and Thermo Fisher Scientific.

‘Paul brings a combination of solid credentials in the drug discovery arena, combined with extensive commercial acumen that will take HarkerBio from an inception stage company with cutting-edge protein and drug-target characterization technologies, to an accelerated drug discovery and structural biology services provider to global pharmaceutical, biotech and other players,’ said James Biltekoff of the HarkerBIO Board of Directors.

‘This is an exciting time to join the HarkerBIO team as CEO and lead their evolution to the next phase commercially. The team has demonstrated with a range of partners and across different protein types, including difficult to crystallize membrane proteins, the ability to remove a critical bottleneck in the drug discovery process. This presents great opportunity in an industry showing no signs of abating its need for such services and in outsourcing mode. Furthermore, through its affiliation with HWI, HarkerBIO has access to a high-throughput protein crystallization platform achieving at least double the success rate of its peers & competitive technologies, a valuable benefit to pharma partners in their drug discovery efforts, more rapidly identifying structures likely to be successful, and terminating others ’, said Dr. Sargeant.

HarkerBIO was founded in 2014 as a spin-off of the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute (HWI), former home to Nobel Laureate Herbert A. Hauptman. As part of its tradition of excellence in basic biomedical research, HWI scientists have greatly advanced the science of X-ray crystallography and the solution of protein structures. HarkerBIO’s mission is to work with clients to improve and optimize the process of drug discovery through structural biology. The company is headquartered at HWI on the growing Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, and was established with the support of state and community foundations. HarkerBIO is engaged in ongoing fundraising beyond seed capital. HarkerBIO successfully reached the semifinalist round in New York State’s 43North funding competition (http://www.43north.org/about-43north).

For further information on HarkerBIO please visit its website at www.harkerbio.com, or e-mail Dr. Paul Sargeant, CEO at paul.sargeant@harkerbio.com.