

## Haitong International Leads Series B Financing in U.S. Biotech Company Orig3n

**Hong Kong, 25 June, 2018** - Haitong International (665.HK) announced that its private equity investment division served as the Lead Investor of Series B financing in U.S. pioneering biotech company Orig3n, representing another investment in the innovative early-stage biotech industry following the investment in Series B venture financing in TCR2 Therapeutics in March 2018.

Founded in 2014, the Boston-based Orig3n provides direct-to-consumer genetic test kits, as well as developing allogeneic induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) therapy and building an allogeneic iPSC bank. The iPSC technology is developed on top of the research results by the 2012 Nobel Prize winners in Physiology or Medicine John B. Gurdon and Shinya Yamanaka, in which reverse differentiation of mature human cells to become stem cells is discovered. Orig3n's existing investors include Hatteras Venture Partners, Syno Capital, LabCorp, 180 Degree Capital, and DEFTA Partners.

Orig3n's products have gained popularity in the market soon after their launches and achieved strong sales performance. Orig3n now ranks as one of the top three genetic test providers on Amazon in terms of sales. Built on its advanced genetic analysis technology from its own laboratory, Orig3n delivers decent testing experience and affordable access to customers. Besides the U.S., Orig3n's DNA test kits have already been marketed in the Latin America. The company has formed a number of strategic partnerships with others and will soon move into the Chinese and Southeast Asian markets with strong demands. The company is cooperating with a leading Chinese insurer and a well-known Southeast Asian business conglomerate, and will establish its presence in Asia. In addition, Orig3n owns the world's largest iPSC bank with significant medical value which provides cells that are HLA-matched to 90% of the U.S. population.

According to Xi-Xi Deng, the Managing Director of Private Equity Investment at Haitong International, "Orig3n is making great efforts in expanding its global footprints with promising development prospects. Haitong International's PE investment team is optimistic about Orig3n's advanced genetic analysis technology and believes that the platform will provide a variety of genetic testing options to potential customers at home and abroad. Orig3n's use of advanced iPSC technology has discovered super-donors which are relevant to a wide range of symptoms associated with human body's immune systems, and the iPSC bank will help medical research organizations and pharmaceutical companies effectively develop their target screening and cell therapy."

SUN Tong, a member of the Executive Committee and the Chief Investment Officer of Haitong International, said: "Haitong International has been continuously focusing on the innovative biotechnology and will further reinforce its investment brand in the biomedical industry through equity investing. While assisting the enterprise to grow rapidly, we also hope to play our part to introduce and market U.S.-developed medical



technology in China."

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### **Haitong International Securities Group Limited**

Haitong International Securities Group Limited ("Haitong International"; Stock Code: 665.HK) is an international financial institution with established presence in Hong Kong and a rapidly expanding network across the globe. It strives to serve as a bridge linking up the Chinese and overseas capital markets. The parent company of Haitong International is Haitong Securities Co. Ltd ("Haitong Securities", Stock Code: 600837.SH; 6837.HK).

To date, Haitong International has well positioned to serve about 200,000 corporate, institutional, as well as retail and high-net worth clients worldwide. Its well-established financial services platform provides corporate finance, wealth management, asset management, institutional clients (key businesses include fixed income, currency and commodities (FICC), derivatives, institutional equities) and investments business, and a full spectrum of financial products and services. Haitong International possesses a sound risk management system that is in line with international standards. The company has been assigned a "Baa2" long-term issuer rating by Moody's and a "BBB" long-term credit rating by Standard and Poor's. Haitong International has a global financial servicing network covering the world's major capital markets including Hong Kong, Singapore, New York, London, Tokyo and Mumbai, thereby making it to be a leading global financial institution with international competitiveness, systematic importance and brand influence.

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