



## ASTROTECH'S 1<sup>ST</sup> DETECT ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL PRE-CLINICAL TRIALS FOR MASS SPECTROMETER USED AS A RAPID BEDSIDE BREATHALYZER

**Austin, Texas – June 15, 2017** – Astrotech (NASDAQ: ASTC) subsidiary 1<sup>st</sup> Detect, in collaboration with The University of Texas Health Science Center, now called UT Health San Antonio, announced positive preliminary results in pre-clinical trials for the BreathDetect 1000 – a rapid bedside breathalyzer for detecting bacterial infections in the respiratory tract, such as hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP).

Working with cystic fibrosis patients at a University Health System clinic in San Antonio, Dr. Edward G Brooks, MD and his team are targeting two of the most fatal bacterial strains found in HAP. Currently in the verification and validation phase after conducting successful bacterial culture headspace trials, the first human trials were initiated on May 22, 2017.

Dr. Brooks said: “1<sup>st</sup> Detect’s BreathDetect 1000 has successfully identified several unique volatile organic compound (VOC) metabolites from *Staphylococcus* and *Pseudomonas* bacteria in human breath samples. The BreathDetect 1000 could significantly enhance the physician’s ability to treat patients correctly. By sampling directly from the lungs, the BreathDetect 1000 would speed up the current diagnosis process substantially – which, in turn, could reduce the misdiagnosis of diseases and subsequent antibiotic resistance; decrease the length of hospital stays; and most importantly, save lives.”

With current diagnosis methods, physicians wait up to three days for the lab to identify the organism, and another two days to receive the antibiotic resistance profile. In the meantime, they prescribe broad spectrum antibiotics – leading to the urgent public health threat of antibiotic resistance and contributing to the re-emergence of deadly diseases such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

“In this early stage of product validation, we’re extremely encouraged by the BreathDetect 1000’s high level of specificity and the progress UT Health San Antonio has made acquiring and validating human breath samples,” said Thomas B. Pickens III, CEO of 1<sup>st</sup> Detect and parent company Astrotech. Additional human subject testing and development is underway.

### **About Astrotech**

Astrotech Corporation (NASDAQ: ASTC) is an innovative science and technology company that invents, acquires, and commercializes technological innovations sourced from research institutions, laboratories, universities, and internally, and then funds, manages, and builds proprietary, scalable start-up companies for profitable divestiture to market leaders to maximize shareholder value. Sourced from Oak Ridge Laboratory’s chemical analyzer research, **1<sup>st</sup> Detect** develops, manufactures, and sells chemical analyzers for use in the security, defense, healthcare, food and beverage, and environmental markets. Sourced from decades of image research from the laboratories of IBM and Kodak, **Astral Images** sells film-to-digital image enhancement, defect removal and color correction software, and post processing services providing economically feasible conversion of television and feature 35mm and 16mm films to the new 4K ultra-high definition (UHD), high-dynamic range (HDR) format necessary for the new generation of digital distribution. Sourced from NASA’s extensive microgravity research, **Astrogenetix** is applying a fast-track, on-orbit discovery platform using the International Space Station to develop vaccines and other therapeutics. Demonstrating its entrepreneurial strategy, Astrotech management sold its state-of-the-art satellite servicing operations to Lockheed Martin in August 2014. Astrotech has operations throughout Texas and is headquartered in Austin. For information, please visit [www.astrotechcorp.com](http://www.astrotechcorp.com).

*This press release contains forward-looking statements that are made pursuant to the Safe Harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks, trends, and uncertainties that could cause actual results to be materially different from the forward-looking statement. These factors include, but are not limited to, whether we can successfully develop our proprietary technologies and whether the market will accept our products and services, as well as other risk factors and business considerations described in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings including the annual report on Form 10-K. Any forward-looking statements in this document should be evaluated in light of these important risk factors. The Company assumes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements.*

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