Sustainable food production and improved human health depends upon innovation in biotechnology. Divergence, Inc. is a biotechnology company focused on reducing the impact of parasitic nematode worms, devastating unseen pests that cause billions of dollars in crop losses annually and widespread disease in humans and animals. The privately held company operates from laboratories at the Bio-Research & Development Growth (BRDG) Park in St. Louis, Missouri and collaborates with leading companies in plant biotechnology and animal health.

- Plant parasitic nematodes are the largest unsolved pest problem in agriculture. Despite over $80 billion in annual crop damage, current nematode controls are limited and environmentally harmful. Parasitic nematodes also pose major health risks to humans, pets, and livestock, and drug resistance is increasingly a problem.
- Innovation at Divergence is led by a team of experienced, passionate scientists who develop breakthroughs in nematode control through fundamental insights into the molecular vulnerabilities of parasites. We are developing crops with resistance to nematodes and also nematode-controlling agrochemicals with a novel mode of action and superior human and environmental safety, both resulting in higher yields for farmers. Beyond parasite control, Divergence has pioneered novel broad-based platform technologies including RNAi, STEM™, and Harvest®. Novel nematicides and fungicides have been discovered using the Harvest® platform.

- Divergence has established a reputation for scientific excellence including receipt of 33 awarded grants totaling nearly nine million dollars, most by competitive peer review through the United States Small Business Innovation Research program. The Company has 21 issued patents and over 40 scientific publications.
- In 2009, Divergence Raised $11.8 million in Series C Financing and was named the Governor’s Technology Company of the Year for the State of Missouri by Governor Jay Nixon and the Department of Economic Development.
- Divergence has a Scientific Advisory Board comprised of world-renowned scientists including the co-recipient of the 2006 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine and four Howard Hughes Investigators. The Company also benefits from an outstanding Board of the Directors that includes current and former leaders of agricultural biotechnology companies and venture capitalists.

For more information: www.divergence.com

October 2010