



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Name: Sol  
Breed Composition:  
Beagle  
Italian Greyhound  
Whippet  
Shih Tzu

## RESULTS ARE IN FOR FIRST CANINE BREED TEST

### New DNA-Based Test Fascinates, Excites Pet Owners

**Boston, MA. May 7, 2007** - On April 11, 2007, Judy Conatser got the news: the results of a DNA test showed her beloved pet, Sport, to be part Husky and part German Shepherd. Also in the mix were Beagle and Borzoi.

Conatser was one of the first to purchase the **Canine Heritage™ Breed Test** from biotech company, **MetaMorphix, Inc.** Developed by its wholly-owned subsidiary MMI Genomics, the Canine Heritage™ Breed Test was launched this year to a very enthusiastic, dog-loving public. It is the first commercial, DNA-based diagnostic test that can genetically determine a dog's breed composition. Currently the company can certify up to 38 of the major breeds that comprise about 75% of the most common registered domestic breeds.

Immediately following the launch in March, test kits began flying off the shelves. By early April, cheek swab samples of dogs, taken by their owners, were mailed to the company for analysis. After receiving the results Conatser wrote in an email to the company "...I find the mix amazing. Husky and Shepherd we could see, but Beagle was a surprise. Once I found a picture of a Borzoi....then I could see that too. But it all makes sense because when Sport barks he combines an unusual long baying sound with his bark."

Karen Hickok found her dog, Daisy, roaming around an industrial area near Lake Erie in 1992. Karen and her husband always assumed the dog was part Chow-Chow but couldn't figure out what else was in the mix. When the Canine Heritage™ Breed Test revealed Shar-Pei, Collie and Sheltie, the Hickok family was both surprised and delighted. "We have always wondered what kind of mix she was. The Chow-Chow is obvious," said Karen, "but it looked like there was more to it than that. When we found out about the **Canine Heritage™ Breed Test** from MetaMorphix, we just had to find out the rest of the story. The mystery dog in her past was revealed!"

In addition to the natural curiosity about an important member of the family that seems to be the main driving force behind the demand for the **Canine Heritage™ Breed Test**, customers are finding other benefits relating to making informed decisions on training as well as health and wellness.

Rescue and dog adoption organizations believe the Canine Heritage™ Breed Test can be useful in expediting the adoption and placement of animals. "We are very excited about the Canine Heritage Breed Test's potential for enhancing dog adoptions," notes Scotlund Haisley, Executive Director of The Washington Animal

Rescue League. "Dogs cannot tell us their stories, so shelters such as ours are always looking for new and innovative ways to find out as much about the dogs as we can. This could be a major asset to our work, revealing possible health and behavior information that will help us find just the right home for the dog and just the right dog for the home."

MetaMorphix, Inc. will be exhibiting at **BIO 2007 International Convention** from May 7<sup>th</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup> in Boston, MA. A list of the 38 identifiable breeds as well as more information on the new product will be available at **booth # 490** in the **Maryland Pavilion** or you can visit the website at [www.canineheritage.com](http://www.canineheritage.com).

### **About MetaMorphix, Inc.**

MetaMorphix, Inc. is a life sciences company dedicated to discovering and commercializing multiple technology platforms to improve human and animal health. The company and its corporate partners are developing products to substantially increase livestock quality and production efficiency, to improve companion animal health, and to treat human muscle degenerative diseases and metabolic disorders utilizing MetaMorphix's animal genomics and growth and differentiation factors (GDFs) technologies. MetaMorphix was founded in 1994; it has headquarters in Beltsville, MD., and lab facilities in Davis, CA.

*Certain statements in this press release are forward-looking. These may be identified by the use of forward-looking words or phrases such as "believe," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "should," "planned," "estimated," and "potential," among others. These forward-looking statements are based on MetaMorphix Inc.'s current expectations. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for such forward-looking statements. In order to comply with the terms of the safe harbor, MetaMorphix Inc. notes that a variety of factors could cause actual results and experience to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties that may affect the operations, performance, development, and results of MetaMorphix Inc.'s business include but are not limited to; (1) unproven use of scientific information to develop or commercialize products; and (2) other factors that might be described from time to time in MetaMorphix Inc.'s business plan and regulatory filings.*

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