

**Press Release**

**The CROs Staphyt & Peracto merge  
to create a leading and global Agricultural Contract Research Organisation**

14<sup>th</sup> March, 2016

Inchy en Artois (FR) and Devonport (AU)

**Staphyt, one of the fastest-growing international Agrosience businesses and Peracto, the leading Australian & New Zealand Agricultural Contract Research Organisation (CRO) announced today they will merge. On July 1 Staphyt will acquire 100% equity of Peracto Pty Ltd. This merger creates a global group, highly specialized in agrosiences, whose combined resources offer clients an unparalleled array of agricultural research & consultation services.**

Staphyt has established itself since 1989, as a growing global leader in agronomic research & regulatory advice, with some 70 sites across Europe, operating in 12 countries.

With this acquisition Staphyt's footprint is extending in Asia Pacific and can offer a full range of services, managed in-house across Australia, New Zealand and beyond. Staphyt can propose off season offers enabling an acceleration of customer's development.

Peracto, founded in 1976 and headquartered in Devonport, provides a range of independent research, development and related technical services to agribusiness clients across Australia, New Zealand and beyond. Peracto's specialty services include new product development for agricultural inputs, field residue trials, plant pathology research, laboratory diagnostics, crop variety trials, product registration trials and cooperative research work. It is the leading employer & developer of agricultural science graduates via their 12-month Graduate Development Program. Peracto employs 65 people throughout 14 sites across Australia and New Zealand.

**Olivier Marchioro, General Manager of Staphyt** said:

« With this first acquisition outside Europe, Staphyt enters into a new region and expands its geographic reach and our in house service portfolio in the southern hemisphere. Once again, we stick with our strategy to provide Excellence to our clients. Peracto is well known for its high quality service and expertise. We have common values and vision. We put our people first. We are invested in helping our agricultural clients get the best outcomes possible. We have an unwavering commitment to quality, and we are committed to continuous improvement & innovation.»

**Peracto Managing Director Ian Macleod** said the fit between Peracto and Staphyt was an excellent one. “Both Peracto and Staphyt are leaders and experts in agricultural research services. Together we will be able to offer our Australian, New Zealand and global customers the best of both businesses. Locally, our customers will now be able to tap into global resources, research, products and expertise. It also means we can take Peracto’s expertise & services further around the world.”

Mr Macleod said that the fit between the two businesses extends well beyond their commercial offerings. “Not only will this partnership enable us to better serve our customers, but it will create greater opportunities for our people to learn, experience and grow through our global network.”

Under a Staphyt-owned Peracto, Mr Macleod said local operations would continue largely unchanged. “The Peracto brand, the Peracto team and the service quality & timeliness that our clients have come to know us by will remain exactly the same. What will change over time is an increase in our ability to offer our clients an even greater array of services to help them solve their problems and improve their outcomes in agriculture. Together with Staphyt, we are focused on continuing to work towards Peracto’s Vision – to be the preferred employer & provider within our industry, delivering on time, every time.”

**For more information or comments, please contact;**

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### **About Staphyt :**

Staphyt is the leading Contract Research Organization in Agro-sciences in Europe since 1989. Staphyt is a proud partner of the main European agrochemicals and bioproducts professionals in order to develop, register and market their products. Staphyt is currently strongly established in 12 countries in Europe; Staphyt's network strength combined with the expertise of its employees guarantees the safe success of its clients projects within the allocated time.

Our areas of expertise are experimentation testing, regulatory consultancy and the coordination of registration dossiers in the field of plant-protection, plant-nutrition and plant-breeding. From consultancy to methodology, from analysis to recommendation, we manage all projects, from the most basic to the most complex.

For additional information: [www.staphyt.com](http://www.staphyt.com)

### **About Peracto :**

Peracto is Australasia's leading private agricultural research organisation. The company was founded in Tasmania, Australia in 1976 and has since grown to establish 14 sites, with an office in every Australian state and across New Zealand's two islands. Each office caters specifically to the research and technical needs of its region, while also being supported by a 65-strong workforce, which shares in decades of industry experience. The company works with a range of clients across cropping systems from cool temperate to tropical regions. Peracto is committed to excellence in research that is applied, practical and based on client needs, while delivering accurate and timely responses to grower and industry needs alike. The company also devotes much time and energy towards coordinating a number of training and development programs for its staff including inter-office transfers, international exchanges and professional development.

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