

## asx announcement

### **KEY STEM CELL PATENT GRANTED IN UNITED STATES Ensures Long-Term, Exclusive Rights and Underpins Commercial Opportunities**

#### **Major Points**

- Key patent granted in United States for company's adult stem cells
- Provides long-term protection for company's platform technology
- Further commercial certainty over methods of manufacture, in addition to composition-of-matter
- Major new asset and value for strategic commercial partnerships

**Melbourne, Australia; 16 July 2008:** Australia's regenerative medicine company, Mesoblast Limited (ASX:MSB), today announced that the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) has granted a key patent, US Patent 7,399,632, through to at least the year 2019.

In conjunction with the company's composition-of-matter patent granted in 2006, US Patent 7,122,178, this new patent delivers a major commercial advantage to both Mesoblast and its United States-based sister company, Angioblast Systems Inc., ensuring that only these companies can commercialise the unique adult stem cells, termed Mesenchymal Precursor Cells (MPC), in the United States, the world's largest market for regenerative medicines.

The granting of the latest patent confers further certainty and significantly increases the commercial value of the adult stem cell platform technology.

The MPC were first identified at the Hanson Institute in Adelaide, Australia, and can repair and regenerate a host of tissue types, including bone, cartilage, fat, blood vessels and heart muscle.

This new granted patent provides long-term protection for the company's platform technology through broad claims over methods of purifying, isolating, and enriching the company's unique adult stem cells.

Building upon and continuing to expand a broad-based international patent portfolio is fundamental to the commercial strategies of both Mesoblast and Angioblast. This second granted US patent is a major asset for both companies in product commercialisation and establishing strategic business partnerships with global pharmaceutical and medical device companies.



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### **About Mesoblast**

Mesoblast Limited (ASX:MSB;USOTC:MBLTY) is committed to the rapid commercialisation of a unique adult stem cell technology aimed at the regeneration and repair of bone and cartilage. Our focus is to progress through clinical trials and international regulatory processes necessary to commercialise the technology in as short a timeframe as possible. Mesoblast has the worldwide exclusive rights for a series of patents and technologies developed over more than 10 years and which relate to the identification, extraction and culture of adult Mesenchymal Precursor Cells (MPCs). The Company has also acquired 39% of Angioblast Systems Inc., an American company developing the platform MPC technology for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases including repair and regeneration of blood vessels and heart muscle. Mesoblast and Angioblast are jointly funding and progressing the core technology. Mesoblast's strategy is to maximise shareholder value through both corporate partnerships and the rapid and successful completion of clinical milestones.

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