



PRESS RELEASE

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 19, 2016- 2359 HOURS

## **Vickers Venture Partners, Exen Capital and Invest NI invest US\$3.5 million Series A funding into SiSaf**

***Next generation nanotech drug delivery platform will use the funds to expand sales in new markets and increase product research and development***

Singapore, September 20, 2016, – Vickers Venture Partners, the leading global Venture Capital (VC) firm, today announced a Series A investment of US\$3.5 million along with Exen Capital into the next-gen silicon nanotechnology drug delivery company SiSaf. The financing will be used to fund sales expansion in new markets and increase product research and development. Dr ElKhalil Binebine, Vice Chairman at Vickers, and Eric Attias, Managing Partner at Exen Capital, will join SiSaf's board of directors. Invest Northern Ireland, an investor in earlier rounds, also followed on in this round.

“SiSaf's technology changes the game in drug formulation, by enabling the packaging and delivery of drugs that cannot otherwise be formulated.” said Dr ElKhalil Binebine, Vice Chairman, Vickers Venture Partners. “We see a new wave of innovative medicines emerging from recent breakthroughs in the life sciences. However, getting these medicines to the right place in the body and at the right dose remains hugely challenging. The groundbreaking Bio-Adaptive Nanosilicon drug delivery technology that Suzanne and the team have developed enables safe and effective targeting of these new drugs, as well as making old drugs even more useful by allowing for controlled release and lower doses. We're excited to be working together with them to build a world-leading drug delivery company.”

Suzanne Saffie-Siebert, Founder and Chairwoman of SiSaf, commented: “We are delighted to have Vickers Venture Partners and Exen Capital as strategic investors. SiSaf is at a very exciting point in its history. After years of R&D, our technology is ready for full commercialisation. Our drug delivery platform has matured into a genuine game changer and its potential applications are massive. Vickers and Exen have a great track record of building companies and their global network and expertise in the life science sector will be key to accelerating SiSaf's growth.”

### **About Vickers**

Vickers Venture Partners was set up in 2005, to create long term value for its investors by investing in and building a stable of companies with large growth potential. With people on the ground trawling for deals, Vickers' competitive advantage stems from its multi-nationality, its experience and knowledge of the markets, its network of government and industry leaders, and its track record in the region and beyond. Vickers portfolio covers life sciences, technology, media, and telecommunications as well as consumer and financial services. The firm was founded by Dr Finian Tan and his four partners Dr ElKhalil Binebine, Dr Jeffrey Chi, Linda Li and Dr Damian Tan, with offices in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore and a presence in San Diego. For further information on Vickers Venture Partners, log onto: <http://www.vickersventure.com>

### **About SiSaf**

SiSaf is a specialty biopharmaceutical company with a next-generation drug delivery technology that can solve even the most extreme drug bioavailability challenges. Safe and effective drug delivery is a multi-billion-dollar problem for the pharmaceutical industry. SiSaf uses Bio-Adaptive Nanosilicon technology invented by one of the pioneers of silicon-based drug delivery and medical applications, Professor Suzanne Saffie-Siebert. Bio-Adaptive Nanosilicon is capable of encapsulating difficult-to-formulate drugs to generate access for actives to previously inaccessible sites, and it offers safe and targeted drug delivery and release. As a platform technology, it can be used in multiple industry verticals, from pharmaceuticals to biotech, animal health and consumer care, to improve the drug candidate pipeline and sustain and create patent value. Founded in 2008 by Professor Suzanne



Saffie-Siebert, the company is based in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Clients and collaborators include major pharmaceutical and animal health companies in Europe and Asia. For further information on SiSaf, log onto: <http://www.sisaf.co.uk>

**PR Contact:**

REDHILL Communications

Anu Gupta

[anu@redhill.asia](mailto:anu@redhill.asia) Mobile: +65 81268128