

**NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date: 14.03.08****-Copy Starts-****Scientific Digital Imaging Acquires Synoptics Group  
To Realise Synoptics' Commercial Potential in Life Science Imaging Markets**

**Cambridge, UK:** Synoptics, a world leader in the development and manufacture of innovative digital imaging systems for life science applications today announced it has been acquired by newly formed UK imaging company, Scientific Digital Imaging (SDI). The acquisition will provide Synoptics with both the investment and business acumen to consolidate and build upon its portfolio of successful imaging products.

SDI's management team has an excellent pedigree and will provide strategic leadership to guide the three life science imaging divisions of Synoptics; Syngene, Synbiosis and Syncroscopy, to maximise each division's commercial potential. SDI's team has Jeremy Gibbs as its interim non-executive Chairman. Gibbs is an expert consultant to technology investors and was for six years a non-executive director of Synoptics. Other key figures at SDI are: Dr Philip Atkin, the founder of Synoptics, as the Chief Technical Officer and Acting Chief Executive Officer; Ronald Howard, a highly regarded consultant who has brokered many business relationships between the City of London and high tech industries and was previously Chairman of Synoptics, as a non-executive Director; and Clare Hough, an experienced accountant as Company Secretary and Chief Financial Officer.

The divisions of Synoptics have expanded steadily in the past ten years with headquarters in Cambridge, UK and an established sales office in the USA. The Group's success to date has been based on the combination of a product range that embraces the industry's leading life science imaging solutions and a professional approach to customer service and delivery.

"Synoptics has a blue-chip client base and a business model that fully complements SDI's," said Jeremy Gibbs, SDI's interim non-executive Chairman.

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# News Release

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“Our growth strategy is based on ongoing organic business development and the purchase of companies whose people, products and services are a natural fit for us. Synoptics is exactly that sort of company and has massive potential to thrive as part of the SDI Group,” Gibbs added.

Paul Ellwood, Synoptics’ newly appointed joint Managing Director commented: “The acquisition of Synoptics by SDI is a very positive move as it signals an exciting new phase for the business and means we can build for the future on the excellent reputation which the Syngene, Synbiosis and Syncroscopy divisions within Synoptics have become world renowned.”

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### Note to Editors

### About Synoptics

Synoptics, based in Cambridge, UK is a world-leader in the development and manufacture of innovative digital imaging systems for a range of scientific applications. The Company has three divisions, Syngene, Syncroscopy and Synbiosis of which Syngene is the largest.

Syngene produces advanced systems for molecular biologists and protein chemists to analyse and document information from gels. Syncroscopy and Synbiosis specialise in digital imaging solutions for microscopy and microbial applications respectively. The Company, founded in 1985, currently employs 50 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.

### About Scientific Digital Imaging

Scientific Digital Imaging (SDI), formed in 2007 is a company that focuses on providing products and services for life science imaging and includes the Synoptics Group.

Based in Cambridge, UK, SDI is funded by private equity and venture capital. The Company is backed by an expert management team, which is a balance of skilled engineers and experienced executives. The management team is complemented by non-executive directors with expertise in growing and directing hi-tech companies.