



## **Forbion Portfolio Company Pieris Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Goes Public, Raises \$12.2 Million**

**--Completion of alternative public offering in which Pieris AG becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pieris Pharmaceuticals, Inc.--**

**Freising, Germany, December 18, 2014 – Pieris Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** (OTC:PIRS) (formerly Marika, Inc.), a Nevada corporation, announced today its successful completion of a share exchange transaction with Pieris AG, a German stock corporation pursuant to which Pieris AG became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. The combined entity is named Pieris Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and will focus solely on the business of Pieris AG, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery and development of its proprietary Anticalin® class of biotherapeutics. The share exchange transaction was effected on December 17, 2014, and beginning on December 18, 2014, Pieris will trade under the symbol "PIRS" on the OTC Pink Markets.

Pieris also announced today that it has entered into securities purchase agreements and consummated a private placement with gross proceeds of \$12.23 million for the issuance and sale of approximately 5.9 million shares of its common stock at \$2.00 per share. Proceeds from the private placement will be used primarily to advance Pieris' proprietary Anticalin® product portfolio, including its anemia program (PRS-080), autoimmunity program (PRS-060) and immuno-oncology franchise (PRS-300), and for general corporate purposes.

"Pieris has achieved several levels of validation of its proprietary next generation therapeutic protein class, Anticalins, through both our partnerships and therapeutic pipeline," said Stephen Yoder, the Company's president and chief executive officer. "This financing, led with investments from Ally Bridge Group, Lombard Odier, Montrose Capital Partners, OrbiMed Advisors and Sphera Funds Management, recognizes these achievements and provides the capital to further pursue the development of differentiated biologics drug candidates in areas of unmet medical need."

Effective with the completion of the share exchange, the Board of Directors of the Company consists of Chau Q. Khuong, Chairman; Stephen S. Yoder, CEO; Stephen Prelak; Michael S. Richman and Christina Takke, who commented:

"Being long-term investors in Pieris, we are very excited about the company's newly gained access to the public capital markets, that will allow the company to pursue a strategy of rapid growth."

**--Ends--**

## **For further information please contact**

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### **About Pieris**

Pieris is a clinical-stage biotechnology company advancing its proprietary Anticalin<sup>®</sup> technology to create differentiated drugs that have the potential to be safer and more effective than conventional approaches. Anticalins show promise in addressing high-unmet medical needs and expanding the potential of targeted therapeutics. The company currently has a diverse proprietary pipeline and has ongoing R&D collaborations with Daiichi Sankyo, the Sanofi Group, Zydus Cadila, Stelis Biopharma and Allergan. For more information visit [www.pieris.com](http://www.pieris.com). Anticalin<sup>®</sup>, Anticalins<sup>®</sup> are registered trademarks of Pieris.

### **About Forbion Capital Partners**

Forbion Capital Partners is a dedicated Life Sciences venture capital firm with offices in Naarden, The Netherlands, Munich, Germany and representation in Boston, US. Forbion invests in life sciences companies in drug discovery & development as well as medical device companies addressing substantial unmet medical needs. Forbion's investment team of ten investment professionals has built an impressive performance track record since the late nineties with successful investments in Rhein Biotech, Crucell, Neutec, Glycart, Borealis, Impella, Alantox, Acorda (ACOR), Fovea, Insmo (INSM), PanGenetics, Argenta Discovery, BioVex, Pathway Medical, CircuLite, bluebird bio (BLUE), uniQure (QURE), Argos (ARGS), arGEN-X (ARGX.BR), Santaris and Pneumrx. Forbion also operate a joint venture with BioGeneration Ventures, who manage two separate seed- and early stage funds focused on Benelux. Including the new fund FCF III, Forbion manage EUR 540M (USD 700M) across 5 funds. Its investors include the EIF through its European Recovery Programme (ERP), LfA and Dutch Venture Initiative (DVI) facilities. For more information, please visit [www.forbion.com](http://www.forbion.com).