



vision ● exploration ● science

**Contacts:**

Tom Ranken  
Chief Executive Officer  
206.336.5567, [jtr@vizlabs.com](mailto:jtr@vizlabs.com)

Elon Gasper  
Senior Vice President  
206.336.5564, [eg@vizlabs.com](mailto:eg@vizlabs.com)

**FOR RELEASE MARCH 11, 2003**

**VizX Labs Reports Sharp Increase In Use of GeneSifter.Net™**  
**Bioinformatics company announces recent success of its first product at**  
**Invest Northwest in Seattle**

**Seattle, WA – March 11, 2003** – VizX Labs, LLC today reported a more than three fold increase since the beginning of the year in the number of active accounts of its breakthrough GeneSifter.Net™ microarray data analysis system for research biologists. GeneSifter.Net™ is now being used in 19 states and in nineteen countries in North America, Western Europe, and Asia.

"Scientists love GeneSifter.Net™ because it brings the power of highly sophisticated bioinformatics tools to the rank-and-file biologist," said VizX Labs CEO, Tom Ranken. "GeneSifter.Net™ is a Web-based system, is easily customizable, and updates are automatic. That allows GeneSifter.Net™ to evolve with a lab's evolving analysis needs."

Microarrays are often referred to as "gene chips" because they are revolutionizing biology the way computer chips transformed electronics. Microarrays enable scientists to generate hundreds of thousands of data points in a single experiment. According to Mark Schena, Ph.D., considered the "father of microarray technology," by 2006, the microarray field is expected to include 400,000 researchers worldwide and the market is estimated at more than \$2 billion.

Today's announcement from VizX Labs came at Invest Northwest, a two-day forum for venture capitalists, angel investors, analysts, investment bankers, institutional investors, pension fund managers, and pharmaceutical and biotechnology corporate partners. VizX Labs was one of 36 private and 28 public companies chosen to present at Invest Northwest yesterday and today in Seattle.

**About VizX Labs**

VizX Labs ([www.vizlabs.com](http://www.vizlabs.com)) combines expertise in biology and computing to develop products that enhance the ability of researchers to understand the genetic mechanisms of disease. The Company's first product, GeneSifter.Net ([www.genesifter.net](http://www.genesifter.net)), is a Web-based system providing microarray data analysis and knowledge management for life scientists, helping researchers manipulate, analyze, and make sense of the mountains of genomic data now being made available. VizX Labs was recognized as a "Venture All Star Company" in September 2002, one of the top 25 promising new companies in Washington State.

# # #