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## Birmingham BUSINESS JOURNAL

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# Atherotech partners with California firm to manufacture cholesterol test equipment

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**Atherotech Inc.** has partnered with **Source Scientific LLC** to manufacture its VAP Cholesterol test equipment.

The alliance is expected to boost Birmingham-based Atherotech's diagnostic cholesterol testing technology to national and international laboratories by modularizing the equipment and systems for administering the Vertical Auto Profile cholesterol test.

Source Scientific is an Irvine, Calif.-based medical device developer and manufacturer that provides design and production services exclusively to other medical device companies.

Because the new VAP Test systems will be developed and manufactured at Source Scientific's Irvine facility, Atherotech has opened a technology development office in Southern California.

Roseanne Varner, Atherotech's president and CEO, says this contract is a key strategic step designed to leverage the company's expertise in diagnostic testing for cardiovascular disease and its proprietary VAP Test technology platform, while supporting the company's equipment transfer strategy.

"The success of the VAP Test - the first cholesterol test for patients at risk for cardiovascular disease - is based on a combination of factors, including strong demand among physicians, clinical labs and patients, updated government cholesterol guidelines, and ongoing efforts of pharmaceutical companies to improve treatment of coronary heart disease," Varner said in a

written statement.

"Opening the technology up to laboratories worldwide and expanding the VAP Test product line allow for broad-based assimilation of the technology in the medical community and position Atherotech for significant, sustainable growth," she said.

In fact, initial agreements are in place with the two largest independent national diagnostic laboratories, and Varner anticipates exponential growth in the number of equipment customers over the next 12 months.

Richard Henson, Source Scientific's CEO, calls the collaboration a "winning partnership" because the "modular design will allow adoption of the VAP Test technology by diagnostic laboratories worldwide as they strive to provide physicians and consumers with the most advanced technologies in the battle against heart disease."

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