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## SPI USA, Inc. and Northeast Biomanufacturing Institute Sign Collaboration Agreement

**BALTIMORE** (December 22, 2005) -- **SPI USA, Inc.** (www.usaspi.com) announced today an agreement to deliver various training seminars in collaboration with the **Northeast Biomanufacturing Institute (NBI)** (www.biomanufacturing.org) in 2006.

"We are delighted to collaborate with NBI on this initiative to provide training to the Northeast region's established and ever-growing biopharma sector. We feel that this new relationship will help reinforce and further strengthen the region's national ranking as a leader in the biotech industry with a qualified workforce in bio-manufacturing" commented Antonio Moreira, Ph.D, Executive Vice President, SPI USA, Inc.

SPI USA will deliver initially the following 2-day training seminars in 2006:

- ❖ Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) Training for the Biotechnology Industry to be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
- ❖ FDA Medical Devices Regulations and Approvals: Quality Systems and Combination Products to be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

"I've taken the cGMP Training course, myself, and really liked it. We use the SPI USA cGMP software to train students of all ages that enroll in our Biomanufacturing courses. The software is self-paced and highly visual, with interactive quizzes built in that facilitate learning cGMP," commented Sonia Wallman, director, NBI.

SPI USA provides highly specialized consulting and training services to organizations worldwide in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors. SPI USA, Inc. also delivers customized and in-house training seminars on topics such as cGMPs, Good Laboratory Practices (GLPs), Good Clinical Practices (GCPs), Medical Devices, and Bio-production Technologies among others. SPI USA is headquartered at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County's research park, bwtech@UMBC.

NBI is a relatively new initiative launched at New Hampshire Community Technical College in Portsmouth with the help of two Department of Labor grants. The NBI is designed to provide education and training for incumbent workers and students in NHCTC Biotechnology programs who have completed the Industrial Biotechnology cornerstone course, BTEC 220: Biomanufacturing.