



# neurotech leaders 2003 forum

## Neurotechnology Capital Markets

*Neurotech Reports' Third Annual Neurotech Leaders Forum will be held on September 9, 2003, at the Hyatt Regency, San Francisco International Airport*

by Ronald C. Trahan

**D**ISEASES AND DISORDERS OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM account for more hospitalizations, more long-term care, and more chronic suffering than nearly all other disorders combined (source: *JAMA*, 2001). Furthermore, the prevalence of CNS disease is expected to increase dramatically as the number of Americans over the age of 65 doubles by 2030, because the incidence rates for many of these disorders increase with age.

"We believe the time is right for investing in neurotechnology as part of our investment strategy," says Daniel J. O'Connell, director of NeuroVentures Capital LLC ([www.neuroventures.com](http://www.neuroventures.com)), based in Charlottesville, Virginia. NeuroVentures is a venture capital firm dedicated to investing in biotechnology and medical device companies engaged in the development and marketing of new products and technologies for CNS- and Neuroscience-related markets. "To date, we have invested in eight emerging CNS companies targeting disease areas such as Alzheimer's, Stroke, Pain, Epilepsy, Spine disorders, Brain Cancer and Memory decline," O'Connell says. "Our most recent investment is in a neurotechnology company, Cyberkinetics. The company's first product, BrainGate™, is designed to give severely paralyzed patients a permanent, direct brain-to-computer interface for the purpose of communication and control of a computer.



James Cavuoto, editor and publisher of *Neurotech Reports*, will moderate the "Neurotechnology Capital Markets" panel at Neurotech Reports' Third Annual Neurotech Leaders Forum.

"CNS diseases and disorders represent the largest and the fastest-growing area of unmet medical need: 1.5 billion people worldwide — including more than 100 million people in the United States — suffer from a CNS disease or disorder," adds O'Connell. He points out that CNS diseases and disorders generate more in total direct cost (healthcare-related) and indirect cost (income) than any other therapeutic area: an estimated \$350 billion annually in the U.S. "Our belief is that Neuroscience holds tremendous potential for major discoveries, commercial developments and investor returns during the next several years," he says. "Research and discovery have begun to mitigate many of the traditional challenges facing CNS therapies, and new imaging technologies, screening tools and innovative applications of neurotechnology have the potential to deliver more effective treatment solutions for these debilitating diseases.

"Drugs for CNS indications are the largest and fastest-growing segment of the worldwide pharmaceutical market, and devices and diagnostic technologies employed in neurology, neurosurgery and interventional neuroradiology represent a worldwide market in excess of \$2 billion," adds O'Connell, who will be joined by Dr. Konstantinos Alataris of Bay City Capital ([www.baycitycapital.com](http://www.baycitycapital.com)) and Dr. Roger Quy of Technology Partners ([www.technologypartners.com](http://www.technologypartners.com)) on the "Neurotechnology Capital Markets" panel, which will be moderated by James Cavuoto, editor and publisher of *Neurotech Reports* ([www.neurotechreports.com](http://www.neurotechreports.com)).

Hear from these and other leading experts...



*"As our understanding of neuronal functions and processes rapidly evolves and novel ways to therapeutically intervene are explored, the field of neurotechnology is revealing more of its huge potential."*

Konstantinos Alataris, PhD  
Bay City Capital  
San Francisco, CA



*"While applications of neurotech to date have been prostheses that, for example, restore hearing to deaf persons, neurotech may some day improve mental and physical performance for able-bodied persons."*

Daniel J. O'Connell  
NeuroVentures Capital  
Charlottesville, VA



*"Several factors will contribute to the growth of the market for neurotechnology products in healthcare, including the prevalence of neurological disorders and their increasing toll on society."*

Roger J. Quy, PhD  
Technology Partners  
Palo Alto, CA

### Third Annual Neurotech Leaders Forum Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, September 9, 2003

The Third Annual Neurotech Leaders Forum offers an exclusive venue for neurotech execs and entrepreneurs to interact with investors, technologists, and potential partners.

Attendees will hear from leading researchers and entrepreneurs who are developing clinically and commercially promising products such as cochlear implants, stroke rehabilitation devices, implanted pain stimulators, neural-computer interfaces, and advanced brain-sensing technologies.

Register **online** at [www.neurotechreports.com](http://www.neurotechreports.com), or by **phone** at 415-546-1259, or via **fax** at 415-358-4264.