



## **ViAqua Therapeutics Ltd. Completes Investment from Nutreco for its Aquaculture Viral Disease Prevention Platform**

*Nutreco NuFrontiers led the investment and their subsidiary Skretting inked a joint development and marketing agreement*

**Misgav, Israel** - 5 July 2018 – [ViAqua Therapeutics Ltd. \("ViAqua"\)](#) a portfolio company of [The Trendlines Group Ltd. \("Trendlines"\)](#) (SGX: 42T; OTCQX: TRNLY), announced that it has completed an investment in two milestones steps, led by [Nutreco Investments B.V. \("Nutreco NuFrontiers"\)](#). Nutreco NuFrontiers is the strategic innovation and investment arm of Nutreco Investments B.V. ("Nutreco"), a global leader in animal nutrition and aquafeed, and recently signed [a collaboration agreement with Trendlines](#). Existing shareholders in ViAqua – Trendlines<sup>1</sup> and the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology - also participated in the investment. Additionally, ViAqua signed a joint development and marketing agreement with Nutreco's aquaculture division [Skretting AS \("Skretting"\)](#), a global leader in the manufacture and supply of aquaculture feeds.

ViAqua addresses the growing need for effective, affordable treatments to combat diseases in aquaculture. One of the major challenges facing the fast-growing aquaculture market is the prevention and treatment of viral diseases. ViAqua has developed a particle-based platform, administered orally, to disable viral infections that attack shrimp and other aquaculture species. The platform uses a proprietary particle formulation, stable in the aquatic environment, able to withstand barriers in the digestive system of the shrimp, and integrates the coated particles for delivery via feed. ViAqua has achieved oral delivery proof of concept demonstrating significant gene silencing through feeding. ViAqua's know-how and technology will advance the development of additional products for other shellfish and fish species.

Commenting on the investment and joint agreement, CEO & Co-Founder of ViAqua Shai Ufaz said, "We are excited to have strategic investors of the caliber of Nutreco aboard and the strength of the joint agreement with Skretting. The funding is intended to complete development of our first product and support tests requirements for the registration stage. Nutreco and Skretting's combined resources and rich knowledge of the aquafeed industry will provide ViAqua with an outstanding opportunity to develop technologies with the right fit for the market. We look forward to collaborating, learning, and contributing our knowledge and expertise, to the common benefit of ViAqua, Nutreco and Skretting."

Nutreco CEO Knut Nesse commented, "Preventing and treating disease, particularly viral infections, is one of the biggest challenges facing the aquaculture industry today. In shrimp farming alone, diseases

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<sup>1</sup> The Trendlines Group notes that the investment in its portfolio company, ViAqua Therapeutics Ltd. bears no material value on Trendlines or its assets.

cause 10-20% losses. Working together with ViAqua, we will be able to offer targeted solutions to reduce and prevent disease.”

CEO of Skretting Therese Log Bergjord says, “This investment in ViAqua fits with our strategy to strengthen our activities in providing health solutions to farmers. ViAqua’s knowledge of how to combat health challenges in shrimp coupled with our expertise on application through feed and our reach in shrimp markets around the world mean that together we can really begin to have an impact on aquaculture health.”

"We are excited to take this revolutionary feed technology another step forward towards a new era of improved aquaculture health management", says ViAqua’s scientific co-founder Professor Avi Schroeder of the Department of Chemical Engineering, the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, which ranks among the top academic institutions globally.

#### **About Nutreco**

Nutreco is a global leader in animal nutrition and aqua feed. Nutreco’s advanced feed solutions are at the origin of food for millions of consumers worldwide. Innovation, sustainability and quality are guiding principles, embedded in the Nutreco culture from research and raw material procurement to products, models and services for livestock farming and aquaculture.

Nutreco employs over 12,000 people in 32 countries with net sales of € 5.9 billion in 2017. Its two global company brands Skretting (aqua feed) and Trouw Nutrition (animal nutrition) have sales in over 90 countries. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of SHV Holdings N.V., a family-owned multinational with net sales of €19.8 billion in 2017.

[www.nutreco.com](http://www.nutreco.com)

#### **About Skretting**

Skretting is the global leader in providing innovative and sustainable nutritional solutions for the aquaculture industry. Skretting has production facilities in 19 countries on five continents and manufactures and delivers high quality feeds from hatching to harvest for more than 60 species. The total annual production volume of feed is more than 2 million tonnes. The head office is located in Stavanger, Norway.

[www.skretting.com](http://www.skretting.com)

#### **About The Trendlines Group Ltd.**

Trendlines is an innovation commercialization company that invents, discovers, invests in, and incubates innovation-based medical and agricultural technologies to fulfill its mission to improve the human condition. As intensely hands-on investors, Trendlines is involved in all aspects of its portfolio companies from technology development to business building. Trendlines’ shares are traded on the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX: 42T) and in the United States as an American Depositary Receipt (ADR) on the OTCQX (OTCQX: TRNLY).

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This press release has been prepared by The Trendlines Group Ltd. (the “Company”) and its contents have been reviewed by PrimePartners Corporate Finance Pte. Ltd. (the “Sponsor”) for compliance with the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (the “SGX-ST”) Listing Manual Section B: Rules of Catalist. The Sponsor has not verified the contents of this press release.

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