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**For Immediate Release**

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Diffraction Limited, a company well-known for its Cyanogen brand astronomy products, including MaxIm DL imaging software, today announced the acquisition of the assets of Santa Barbara Instrument Group Camera Division of Aplegen, Inc. As part of this acquisition, Diffraction Limited is assuming all responsibility for manufacturing, product development, customer service, repair and warranty support.

Santa Barbara Instrument Group (SBIG) has been a leading global supplier of high quality CCD cameras and instrumentation for the scientific community for 25 years, as an independent company until 2011, and thereafter as a division of Aplegen, Inc. SBIG instruments are in use at some of the world's most prestigious institutions including NASA, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Palomar Observatory, and the German Space Agency. Since the introduction in 1989 of the venerable ST-4 autoguider, SBIG has been a major contributor to the growth of modern amateur astronomy. SBIG led the revolution that saw CCD technology replace film as the medium of choice for both scientific observations and beautiful astrophotos. SBIG also supplies instruments to the rapidly growing life sciences market and to OEMs in non-astronomy related fields.

Doug George, President/CEO of Diffraction Limited, explained, "The combination of high quality SBIG instruments with our industry-leading software will create the ultimate astronomical imaging solution." He further commented, "We are very pleased that key SBIG staff will remain in place during the transition period, along with Diffraction Limited engineers, to ensure continuous customer support and production. This acquisition will have a positive effect for SBIG's loyal customers and dealers." Mike Lloyd, CEO of Aplegen, Inc., added, "Pairing industry leading product innovation of software and hardware will go a long way to address concerns of system ease of use, and help pave the way to a new wave of product innovation required of this marketplace. Enthusiasts and professionals around the world will be the true beneficiaries of the combined strengths of Diffraction Limited and SBIG."

"I am energized by the possibilities created by Diffraction Limited and SBIG products being united under one roof," remarked Dr. Alan Holmes, President of the SBIG division. "The resulting tighter integration of software and hardware can only benefit existing and future customers. Doug's commitment to continuity of repair and customer support is also highly commendable." Michael Barber, Vice President of the SBIG Division agreed, "We could not have asked for a better combination than SBIG's innovative hardware and Diffraction's cutting

edge software. SBIG has always been most comfortable providing products for amateur and professional astronomers and this acquisition can only facilitate that purpose." Dr. Holmes and Michael Barber, both co-founders of SBIG, will continue to work with Diffraction Limited to ensure a smooth transition.

Diffraction Limited was founded by Doug George in 1993. Diffraction's suite of products, sold under the Cyanogen brand, include the renowned MaxIm DL astronomical imaging software, MaxPoint telescope pointing refinement software, MaxDome II observatory dome controllers, Boltwood Cloud Sensors, and Quick Fringe interferogram analysis software. George is a professional engineer with 30 years of experience in electronics, embedded systems, and application software. In 2001 he was awarded the Engineering Medal for Engineering Excellence by Professional Engineers Ontario, and he is a past President of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He is an accomplished amateur astronomer, having co-discovered Comet Skorichenko-George, and 12 supernovae as part of the Puckett Supernova Search program.

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