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**SCIRUS DEPLOYS FAST ESP™ TO FURTHER INCREASE SEARCH RELEVANCY FOR
THE WORLD'S MOST COMPREHENSIVE SCIENTIFIC SEARCH SITE**

*Scirus Uses FAST's Enterprise Search Platform to Provide Unprecedented Accuracy and Performance on
Searching 167 million Science Specific Documents for Researchers*

OSLO, Norway and AMSTERDAM, the Netherlands —24 February 2004— Fast Search & Transfer™

(FAST™), the leading developer of search and real-time filtering technologies, announced today that Elsevier's science-specific search engine, Scirus (www.scirus.com), has fully migrated to FAST ESP™. FAST ESP is the first enterprise search platform to intelligently and dynamically retrieve and analyze the complete collection of information existing across an organization's enterprise and the Web, regardless of the format, structure, or location of the data.

FAST is solving difficult search and information management challenges for Scirus by providing a flexible search and information retrieval solution that captures structured and unstructured data from both proprietary and Web sources. FAST's unique automatic categorization tools enable Scirus to offer its users subject specific searching. The advanced drill-down capabilities of FAST's technology also enable users to perform field-specific searches, such as searching by author name. FAST ESP provides Scirus with the scalability necessary to search over 167 million science-specific documents from the World Wide Web and proprietary Sources with unprecedented speed and accuracy.

“With FAST ESP, scientists, researchers and students can search for information across multiple scientific indexes, and dynamically drill down through a variety of topics,” said Eefke Smit, Elsevier Director Science Direct & Bibliographic Databases. “The deployment strengthens the overall search experience for users of Scirus.com, providing quick access to the best possible research from our massive collection of scientific data.”

“Scirus.com has consistently proven to be the absolute best online source for retrieving the most relevant scientific information,” commented John M. Lervik, FAST’s chief executive officer. “We have a long history with Scirus as their search provider, and we are pleased that they have chosen to migrate to FAST ESP to further expand the search capabilities of their site for scientific researchers.”

FAST ESP is offered by FAST through the FAST Data Search™ suite of enterprise search solutions, which includes FAST Data Search™ for Site Search; FAST Data Search™ for Compliance; FAST Data Search™ for eCommerce; FAST Data Search™ for Intranets; and FAST Data Search™ 360. The FAST Data Search product suite supplies a complete information retrieval solution ideal for key vertical markets and applications including e-Commerce and Internet Portals, Financial Services; Government; Life Sciences; Media and Publishing; and Telecom.

About Scirus

Launched in April 2001, Scirus is the most comprehensive science-specific search engine available on the Internet. Driven by the latest in search engine technology, it covers more than 167 million science-related pages and can pinpoint precise scientific information that other search engines can not reach, including peer reviewed articles. Scirus has won several international awards including the Search Engine Watch awards for Best Specialty Search Engine.

About Elsevier

Elsevier is a leading publisher of scientific, technical and medical information products and services. Working in partnership within the global science and health communities, the company publishes more than 1,800 journals and 2,200 new books per year, in addition to offering a suite of innovative electronic products, such as ScienceDirect and MDConsult, bibliographic databases, online reference works and subject specific portals. Elsevier is headquartered in Amsterdam, with offices worldwide. The company is part of Reed Elsevier Group plc, an innovative information provider. Operating in the science & medical, legal, education and business information sectors, Reed Elsevier provides high-quality and flexible information solutions to users, with increasing emphasis on the Internet as a means of delivery. Reed Elsevier's ticker symbols are REN (Euronext Amsterdam), REL (London Stock Exchange), and RUK and ENL (New York Stock Exchange).

About FAST

FAST creates the real-time search and filter technology solutions that are behind the scenes at the world’s best known companies with the most demanding search problems. FAST’s flexible and scalable integrated technology platform elevates the search capabilities of enterprise customers and connects people to the relevant information they seek regardless of medium. This drives revenues and reduces total cost of ownership by effectively leveraging IT infrastructure. FAST’s powerful enterprise search technology solutions are used by a wide range of global customers and partners, including AT&T, Cardinal Health, CareerBuilder.com, Chordiant, CIGNA, CNET, Dell, Fidelity Investments, FirstGov.gov (GSA), Freeserve, IBM, LexisNexis, Overture, Rakuten, Reed Elsevier, Reuters, Tenet Healthcare, T-Online, US Army, Virgilio (Telecom Italia), and Vodafone.

FAST operates globally with presence in the United States, Europe, and Japan. FAST is publicly traded under the ticker symbol 'FAST' on the Oslo Stock Exchange. Please visit www.fastsearch.com for more information.

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