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For Immediate Release

Biota added to S&P/ASX 300

Melbourne Australia—Friday 3 March 2006.

Biota Holdings Limited (ASX:BTA) today announced the company is being added to the S&P/ASX 300 index, effective close of trade 17 March 2006.

About Biota

Biota is a world-leading antiviral drug discovery company with its headquarters in Melbourne, Australia. Biota was responsible for zanamivir, the first-in-class neuraminidase inhibitor, subsequently launched by GSK as Relenza™ for the treatment and prevention of influenza. Relenza is currently being stockpiled by various governments for defence against avian (bird) flu. Recent Biota research breakthroughs have included a series of candidate drugs aimed at RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus, bronchiolitis), subsequently licensed to MedImmune Inc. Biota is also engaged in early stage research targeting hepatitis C virus infection. In addition, Biota has key partnerships with Sankyo; for the development of second generation flu antivirals (called LANI or Long Acting Neuraminidase Inhibitors) and with Thermo Electron; Biota developed the FLU OIA® influenza diagnostics, currently marketed in the US.

™Relenza is a registered trademark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies
®FLU OIA is a registered trademark of Thermo Electron Corporation

**Additional information available at www.biota.com.au*

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