

Q&A with Dr. Evelyn S. Sawyer, Ph.D, President and CEO of Sea Run Holdings, Inc providing Salmon Plasma Proteins for Reagents and Therapeutics



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**"We have a whole new platform of very useful reagents and therapeutics where many of the potential applications have not even been explored."
- Dr. Evelyn S. Sawyer, Ph.D**

CEOCFO: Dr. Sawyer, what is the idea behind Sea Run Holdings and Solutions from the Sea?

Dr. Sawyer: We were a salmon aquaculture company for quite a few years. By 2004, there were two things going on. Of course there was BSE, the mad cow scare in Europe where bovine proteins both as therapeutics and reagents were pretty much banned. The second thing we noticed as a salmon aquaculture company is that salmon could do some remarkable things. As one example, we were raising the young salmon in what we call raceways or long concrete tanks without covers and a hawk or osprey would swoop down, pick up a fish, largely severing the backbone and spinal cord because that is where they grab them, and if they happened to drop that fish, the fish would be paralyzed. It would drop to the bottom of the raceway still alive. In about 30-60 days, you would see the tail wiggle again and the salmon would regenerate its spinal cord. That is one of the remarkable things we can see about these fish as we were working with them. There are other factors such as very rapid blood clotting.

CEOCFO: Where does that bring you today?

Dr. Sawyer: By 2004, we had sold off all our fish raising facilities and become a total biotechnology company. Our technology is salmon plasma proteins for both reagents and therapeutics.

CEOCFO: Is this common?

Dr. Sawyer: I have not heard of any other companies doing what we are doing. There are many companies farming salmon. By that I mean these huge pens in the ocean where the salmon are grown for food. There are other value added products from salmon such as all the omega three products that are made into capsules for nutritional things. I do not know anyone else working with salmon plasma proteins, perhaps in part because we have a patent portfolio on most of what we do.

CEOCFO: Where would salmon plasma proteins be applicable? Could it replace all plasma?

Dr. Sawyer: First of all, there certainly is enough. I think 2.5 million tons is the current harvest of farmed salmon. There is a lot of blood out there from which we extract the plasma and the proteins. There is plenty of material. I would say not all human plasma proteins could be replaced by it. We are not talking about injecting the plasma into humans. We are talking about reagents, which are not used in humans; they are used in the laboratory. Once we can get FDA approval for the therapeutics (FDA seems comfortable with the source), the therapeutics could be used in a number of different applications. As an example, Salmon are vertebrates and we all have a protein and enzyme called thrombin in our blood. This catalyzes or activates blood clotting. It is called a haemostatic agent. In humans, although it has other functions, it is mostly known for blood clotting. In salmon however, it has a really unique function. It not only clots the blood but