



# THE CAGING TIMES

December, 2011

**Spotlight:  
Rob Bond  
Prima Tec Management, Ltd.**



Rob Bond originally came from an agricultural and livestock management background and had always wanted to be a veterinarian. At age 16, he became the first trainee animal technician for a start-up local contract research company, Life Science Research. Rob took advantage of every opportunity for training and development and after one year, at age 17, he was managing a facility with rodents, rabbits, quail, and chickens, and a staff of six, all of whom were older than he.

Rob went on through five years of 'day release' at college to obtain various specialist certifications, ending up as a Fellow of the Institute of Animal Technology in 1981. He was the youngest person ever to attain this level of qualification.

Rob worked for LSR for more than nine years, eventually becoming facility manager for three research units with a staff of 40. In charge of animal holding for 25,000 rodents on various projects as well as deputy to the Head of the Department, he wanted to broaden his research career beyond safety evaluation testing. Over the next few years, he set up biological research facilities for University College Cork in Ireland, and also spent a year working in Italy. During his time in Ireland, Rob added more skills to his resume and became acquainted with the

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
and  
WARM WISHES for a WONDERFUL NEW  
YEAR!**



**Spotlight: Rob Bond  
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ACS products have good market share and acknowledgement within the UK and Ireland. Rob expects continued success. "I'm noticing that facility managers and other purchasers of lab animal equipment are becoming much more aware of ensuring best value in purchases they make, as well as considering 'whole life costs' and the environmental/cost benefits from reduced energy consumption. As we all know, ACS products by far exceed and excel in 'environmental friendliness' when compared with other manufacturers."

**A Loyal Customer Base**

PrimaTec has developed many good customer relationships on the strength of the quality, value and after-sales support provided by both ACS and PrimaTec. "Repeat business is always a good indication of customer satisfaction and

world of academia, particularly in the varied biological science disciplines.

### **A Funny Story**

Rob had developed a good relationship with the professor of surgery at the local teaching hospital and became very involved in early research programs pioneering work with endoscopy (keyhole surgery) techniques. Working mainly with pigs and dogs and having been introduced to some of the trainee and visiting resident surgeons, the visiting surgeons came to assume that Rob was a surgeon. Imagine their surprise when the professor had to leave one day mid-surgery on a pig, and let the group know he was “leaving them in the capable hands of Mr. Bond.”

Rob moved back to England in 1992 to be animal Facility Manager at Porton Down, the UK Government’s civilian and military pathogen research organizations (similar to the US’ CDC and Fort Dietrich). There Rob gained experience working with many level-3 and level-4 pathogens, like Anthrax and HIV. He is one of very few people in the world who has worked in level-4 laboratories with live Ebola virus.

In the mid-1990s, Rob went to work for the Medical Research Council (MRC) to set up animal research facilities for the newly established UK research center for CJD in London, following the Mad Cow Disease crisis that was affecting the UK and other parts of Europe at that time.

### **From Research Manager to Entrepreneur**

In 1998, Rob was invited to make a confidential presentation to the Board of a colleague’s new company. Rob purchased a 25% stake in the company and became their Technical Director. After 18 months, Rob sold his share back to the other Directors and established PrimaTec in July, 2000. A specialist company within the biomedical research sector, PrimaTec Management Limited offers a ‘one-stop shop’ approach. “With our extensive experience in managing research facilities, my associates and I can fulfill any requirement within an animal research facility through the resources of the company,” he says.

this is something we have happily seen with many of our OptiMICE customers,” says Rob. One, a Director at a cancer research institute, was so taken by OptiMICE he authorized a purchase order for two racks the first time he saw the product. When he and Rob visited ACS’ manufacturing facilities in Denver, Colorado, he “was delighted with the philosophy and ACS’ ‘extended family’ warm welcome.” The customer has since become an extremely good friend and colleague of many at ACS. The Institute has regularly ordered more racks over the past few years as it gradually replaced the previous caging system, and now has more than 50 ACS racks.

Happily, ACS has many such loyal customers, thanks to the industry knowledge, hard work and dedication to customer service of distributors like Rob Bond. We’re glad he’s on our side, and look forward to many more years of business partnership and friendship.



Rob in Colorado with Rich VanDewater and Steve Tierney

PrimaTec represents the products of ACS, ClorDiSys Inc. and Locus Technology Inc., all USA based organizations. The company also markets a wide range of PrimaTec branded products used by animal facilities, which are manufactured at a colleague's factory on the south coast of the UK. Additionally, PrimaTec provides consulting and training to animal facility management.

Ironically, Rob was introduced to ACS and the original M.I.C.E. system by a colleague who ultimately launched Allentown in the UK, becoming PrimaTec's competitor. PrimaTec became ACS' UK and Ireland distributor in 1995; at the 2005 LASA meeting, OptiMICE made its UK debut to rave reviews.

***Continued in the Next Column***

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



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**ACS' 2012 Catalog** is now posted on our website. We've added dozens of accessories to complement your lab animal research; new products are being added all the time. If you'd like a printed copy of the new 2012 Catalog, please call Chery Honiotes, 720.283.0177.

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



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## **New Product Update**

### **ACS Cage Top Holder C61030**

The C61030 Cage Top Holder is an indispensable accessory when changing cages with either water bag cage tops or external water bottle cage tops. The holder allows an animal technician to elevate the cage top securely above the cage under a hood, allowing easy access to animals and feed while maintaining cleanliness. It's made from durable electropolished stainless steel for long service life.

