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ArborGen Names Edward T. Shonsey as New Chairman of the Board

Shonsey brings extensive experience in commercializing new technologies and optimizing operational performance to advance ArborGen's corporate objectives

SUMMERVILLE, SC – October 5 2011 – ArborGen, a world leader in the development and commercialization of technologies that improve the productivity of trees for wood, fiber and energy, today announced that Edward T. Shonsey has been named chairman of the board of directors. Shonsey brings 38 years of senior management experience and an impressive track record of guiding emerging companies into commercial successes.

“We are excited that Ed has agreed to chair our board as his proven leadership and track record will be invaluable to ArborGen at this critical juncture,” said Barbara Wells, president and CEO of ArborGen. “In addition, his mix of experience successfully guiding agricultural life science, biotech and other emerging technology companies, is a perfect complement to ArborGen’s business and our team of industry leading scientists, silvicultural and forestry experts, and sales professionals.”

Shonsey is cofounder and CEO of L1 Agrosiences Inc., an agricultural life science company working to develop and commercialize agricultural traits including nitrogen utilization, and drought and salinity tolerance in plants. As part of his successful track record, Shonsey has created, acquired, or integrated 11 public and private corporations while launching products into the marketplace. He has played a key role in leading the approval and global introduction of the first biotech traits in corn and other agricultural products, with BT corn being named agricultural product of the year.

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“I am honored to join ArborGen’s talented board of directors and to work closely with the management team,” said Shonsey. “ArborGen is a unique company, combining advanced genetics, biotechnology and forestry to grow better trees. Wood is the world’s most traded raw material and ArborGen is working to ensure that by maximizing the productivity and performance of purpose grown trees, we can meet global supply and demand while helping to conserve our precious high value conservation forests.”

Since 2008, Shonsey has served on the board of Cellana, Inc. (formerly HR Biopetroleum Inc.), a leading developer of algae-based biofuels and bioproducts. As part of his accomplished career as a senior executive, he has held several other prominent leadership positions including his role as CEO/CFO of Diversa Inc. (NASDAQ), President of Novartis/Syngenta Seeds Inc. (NYSE), CFO/Senior Vice-President of Pioneer Hybrid Inc. (NASDAQ), and Operations Manager for Procter & Gamble Company (NYSE). While a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, Shonsey was decorated for performance during combat operations in Vietnam. He has published several important articles, including “Biotech and Transgenic Products” and “Our Daily Bread: An Analysis of the Global Food Supply and Needs.” Presently he serves as a board member of several companies including RiceTec Inc/AG and Foundation of Liechtenstein.

About ArborGen

ArborGen is revolutionizing productivity in commercial forestry. ArborGen is the largest global supplier of seedling products to the commercial forestry industry, as well as the leading developer of biotech seedlings. Through innovations in both conventional breeding and biotechnology, ArborGen is developing high-value products that significantly improve the productivity of a given acre of land. These products enable ArborGen’s customers to grow trees that yield more wood per acre with greater consistency and quality in a shorter period of time. ArborGen’s work is improving the sustainability of working forests while helping to meet the world’s growing need for wood, fiber and energy. For more information, please visit www.arborgen.com.

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