New Integrated Software Module Improves Accuracy, Speed, and Convenience for LOH Analysis

March 1, 2007, State College PA, SoftGenetics announced the availability of a new application for Loss of Heterozygosity (LOH) analysis. The application has been integrated into its fragment analysis software, GeneMarker. LOH analysis with GeneMarker eliminates the need for error-prone, time-consuming data transfer necessary with other genotyping software programs. GeneMarker directly processes electrophoretic separation data, performs sizing calculations, normalizes the data, detects areas of LOH, and provides researchers and clinicians with an easy-to-read, informative patient report.

LOH testing and analysis is rapidly becoming a key genetic diagnostic test for ovarian, colorectal and other genetically based cancers. These cancers occur when a somatic cell contains only one copy of an allele due to non-disjunction during mitosis, segregation during recombination or deletion of a chromosome segment. LOH analysis becomes critical when the remaining allele contains a point mutation that renders the tumor suppressor gene inactive, thereby allowing the cell to grow out of control and eventually leading to cancer.

GeneMarker’s LOH application accepts data from all major sequencing instrumentation (Applied Biosystems, Beckman-Coulter, MegaBace). Reports can be saved as JPEG files or linked to a LIMS or other database system for electronic storage and recall.

The LOH application module expands the utility of GeneMarker for molecular diagnostic utility, which already includes modules for MLPA and Trisomy analysis as well as many other genotyping applications.

A 30-day trial of GeneMarker, User Manual and Application Note are available from SoftGenetics by email request (info@softgenetics.com) or can be downloaded from the SoftGenetics website: www.softgenetics.com.