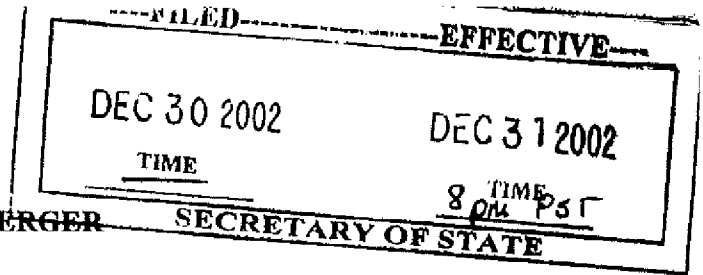


PATENT ASSIGNMENT

Electronic Version v1.1
 Stylesheet Version v1.1

SUBMISSION TYPE:	NEW ASSIGNMENT
NATURE OF CONVEYANCE:	MERGER
EFFECTIVE DATE:	12/31/2002
CONVEYING PARTY DATA	
Name	Execution Date
Southern Biosystems, Inc.	12/26/2002
RECEIVING PARTY DATA	
Name:	Durect Corporation
Street Address:	10260 Bubb Rd.
City:	Cupertino
State/Country:	CALIFORNIA
Postal Code:	95014
PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1	
Property Type	Number
Application Number:	10177997
CORRESPONDENCE DATA	
Fax Number:	4048792160
Phone:	404-879-2150
Email:	candace@pabstpatent.com
<i>Correspondence will be sent to the e-mail address first; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent via US Mail.</i>	
Correspondent Name:	Pabst Patent Group LLP
Address Line 1:	1545 Peachtree Street
Address Line 2:	Suite 320
Address Line 4:	Atlanta, GEORGIA 30309
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER:	SBS 102
NAME OF SUBMITTER:	Candace C. Andrews
Total Attachments: 2 source=SBS_102_Certified_Copy_of_Merger#page1.tif source=SBS_102_Certified_Copy_of_Merger#page2.tif	

OP \$40.00 10177997



**ARTICLES OF MERGER
of
SOUTHERN BIOSYSTEMS, INC.,
an Alabama Corporation,
WITH AND INTO
DURECT CORPORATION,
a Delaware Corporation**

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 10-2B-11.05 and 10-2B-11.07 of the Alabama Business Corporation Act, DURECT Corporation, a Delaware corporation ("DURECT"), adopts the following Articles of Merger for the purpose of merging Southern BioSystems, Inc., an Alabama corporation ("SBS"), with and into DURECT:

1. The law of the State of Delaware permits such merger.
2. The name of the surviving corporation is DURECT Corporation, and it is to be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware.
3. The plan of merger approved by the corporations is as set forth in the Agreement and Plan of Merger which is attached hereto as Schedule I and made a part hereof.
4. Shareholder approval of the merger was not required under Section 10-2B-11.04 of the Alabama Business Corporation Act.
5. The board of directors of DURECT approved the merger in accordance with Section 10-2B-11.04 of the Alabama Business Corporation Act.
6. In accordance with Section 10-2B-11.05 of the Alabama Business Corporation Act, the Articles of Incorporation of SBS, and any and all amendments thereto, are filed with the Jefferson County Judge of Probate and with the Secretary of State of Alabama.
7. The effective time and date of these Articles of Merger is 8:00 p.m., Pacific Standard Time, on December 31, 2002.

[Signature Page to Follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, DURECT has duly caused these Articles of Merger to be executed by its duly authorized officer as of this 26th day of December, 2002.

DURECT CORPORATION,
a Delaware corporation

By: _____

Name: James E. Brown

Its President and Chief Executive Officer