INHIBITEX, INC. Form SC TO-C January 09, 2012

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE TO

TENDER OFFER STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 14(D)(1) OR 13(E)(1) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

INHIBITEX, INC.

(Name of Subject Company (Issuer))

INTA ACQUISITION CORPORATION

(Offeror)

A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of

BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB COMPANY

(Offeror)

(Names of Filing Persons (identifying status as offeror, issuer or other person))

COMMON STOCK, PAR VALUE \$0.001 PER SHARE

(Title of Class of Securities)

45719T103

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

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CALCULATION OF FILING FEE

Transaction Valuation N/A " Check the box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)	
paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the f	form or schedule and the date of its filing.
Amount Previously Paid: N/A Form of Registration No.: N/A	Filing Party: N/A Date Filed: N/A
x Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer. Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:	
x Third-party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.	
" Issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.	
" Going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.	
" Amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.	
Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the re	esults of the tender offer. "
If applicable, check the appropriate box(es) below to designate the appropriate box(es) below to designate the appropriate box (es) below (es)	riate rule provision(s) relied upon:
" Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer)	

Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third-Party Tender Offer)

Exhibit

Bristol-Myers Squibb to Acquire Inhibitex

Strategic Acquisition Supports Long-Term Growth Potential of the Company

Builds on Company s Strong Legacy and Commitment in Virology

Enhances Company s Broad HCV Portfolio with Addition of INX-189, a potent NS5B Nucleotide

(NEW YORK & PRINCETON, NJ and ATLANTA, GA, January 7, 2012) - <u>Bristol-Myers Squibb Company</u> (NYSE: BMY) and <u>Inhibitex, Inc.</u> (Nasdaq: INHX) announced today that the companies have signed a definitive agreement under which Bristol-Myers Squibb will acquire Inhibitex for \$26.00 per share in cash pursuant to a cash tender offer and second step merger. The transaction, with an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$2.5 billion, has been approved by the boards of directors of both companies. The board of directors of Inhibitex has agreed to recommend that Inhibitex s shareholders tender their shares in the tender offer. In addition, shareholders with beneficial ownership of approximately 17% of Inhibitex s common stock have entered into agreements with Bristol-Myers Squibb to support the transaction and to tender their shares in the tender offer.

Inhibitex is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the development of innovative products that can treat or prevent serious infections, whose primary focus is on the development of nucleotide/nucleoside analogs for the treatment of hepatitis C virus (HCV). Its lead HCV asset is INX-189, an oral nucleotide polymerase (NS5B) inhibitor in Phase II development that has exhibited potent antiviral activity, a high barrier to resistance and pan-genotypic coverage. Nucleotides/nucleosides are emerging as an important class of antivirals that may play a critical role as the backbone of future direct-acting antiviral-only combination approaches to HCV treatment.

The acquisition of Inhibitex builds on Bristol-Myers Squibb s long history of discovering, developing and delivering innovative new medicines in virology and enriches our

portfolio of investigational medicines for hepatitis C, said Lamberto Andreotti, chief executive officer, Bristol-Myers Squibb. There is significant unmet medical need in hepatitis C. This acquisition represents an important investment in the long-term growth of the company.

This transaction puts INX-189 and the Company s other infectious disease assets in the hands of an organization that can more optimally develop them and which believes as strongly as we do in INX-189 s potential in the treatment of chronic HCV, said Russell Plumb, President and Chief Executive Officer of Inhibitex. Bristol-Myers Squibb s expertise in antiviral drug development, and its existing complementary portfolio, will assure that the potential of INX-189 is realized as part of future oral combination therapies for millions of patients in need around the world.

Bristol-Myers Squibb continues to drive advances in the field of hepatitis C research and development through internal development and selective partnerships, said Elliott Sigal, M.D., Ph.D., executive vice president, chief scientific officer and president, R&D, Bristol-Myers Squibb. The addition of Inhibitex s nucleotide polymerase inhibitor to our own promising portfolio, which includes other direct-acting antivirals, brings additional options to develop all-oral regimens with better cure rates, shorter duration of therapy and lower toxicity than the current standard of care.

The transaction is expected to be dilutive to earnings for Bristol-Myers Squibb through 2016, with an expected impact on earnings per share of approximately \$0.04 in 2012 and approximately \$0.05 in 2013.

Under the terms of the definitive agreement, Bristol-Myers Squibb will commence a cash tender offer to purchase all of the outstanding shares of Inhibitex s common stock for \$26.00 per share. The closing of the tender offer is subject to customary terms and conditions, including the tender of a number of shares that constitutes at least a majority of Inhibitex s outstanding shares of common stock (on a fully diluted basis) and expiration or termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act. The agreement also provides for the parties to effect, subject to customary conditions, a merger to be completed following the

completion of the tender offer which would result in all shares not tendered in the tender offer being converted into the right to receive \$26.00 per share in cash. The merger agreement contains a provision under which Inhibitex has agreed not to solicit any competing offers for the company. Bristol-Myers Squibb will finance the acquisition from its existing cash resources. The companies expect the tender offer to close approximately thirty days after commencement of the tender offer.

Citi is serving as financial advisor to Bristol-Myers Squibb in connection with the acquisition and Kirkland & Ellis LLP is its legal advisor. Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC is serving as financial advisor to Inhibitex in connection with the acquisition and Dechert LLP is its legal advisor.

About Bristol-Myers Squibb

Bristol-Myers Squibb is a global biopharmaceutical company whose mission is to discover, develop and deliver innovative medicines that help patients prevail over serious diseases. For more information, please visit http://www.bms.com or follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/bmsnews.

About Inhibitex

Inhibitex, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing products to prevent and treat serious infectious diseases. The Company s clinical-stage pipeline includes three Phase 2 development programs: INX-189, a nucleotide polymerase inhibitor in development for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C infections, FV-100, a nucleoside inhibitor in development for the reduction of shingles-associated pain, and Aurexis, a humanized monoclonal antibody in development for the treatment of serious *S. aureus* bloodstream infections. The Company also has other HCV nucleotide polymerase inhibitors in preclinical development and has licensed the use of its proprietary MSCRAMM® protein platform to Pfizer for the development of a staphylococcal vaccine, which is currently being evaluated in a Phase ¹/₂ clinical trial. For additional information about the Company, please visit www.inhibitex.com. Inhibitex®, MSCRAMM® and Aurexis® are registered trademarks of Inhibitex, Inc.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements relating to the acquisition of Inhibitex by Bristol-Myers Squibb and the discovery, development and commercialization of certain biological compounds. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and involve inherent risks and uncertainties, including factors that could delay, divert or change any of them, and could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially from current expectations. No forward-looking statement can be guaranteed. Among other risks, there can be no guarantee that the acquisition will be completed, or if it is completed, that it will close within the anticipated time period or that the expected benefits of the acquisition will be realized. The actual dilutive impact on earnings per share in the near- and mid-term may differ from the expected impact described in this release. In addition, the compounds described in this release are subject to all the risks inherent in the drug development process, and there can be no assurance that these compounds will receive regulatory approval or be commercially successful. Forward-looking statements in the press release should be evaluated together with the many uncertainties that affect Bristol-Myers Squibb s business, particularly those identified in the cautionary factors discussion in Bristol-Myers Squibb s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and Current Reports on Form 8-K. Bristol-Myers Squibb undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

Inhibitex Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. All statements, other than historical facts included in this press release, including statements regarding the timing and the closing of the tender offer and merger transactions; the ability of Bristol-Myers Squibb to complete the transactions considering the various closing conditions; and any assumptions underlying any of the foregoing, are forward looking statements. These intentions, expectations, or results may not be achieved in the future and various important factors could cause actual results or events to differ materially from the forward-looking

statements that Inhibitex makes, including uncertainties as to the timing of the tender offer and merger; uncertainties as to how many of Inhibitex s stockholders will tender their stock in the offer; the possibility that competing offers may be made; the possibility that various closing conditions to the transactions may not be satisfied or waived, including that a governmental entity may prohibit, delay or refuse to grant approval for the consummation of the transaction; that there is a material adverse change of Inhibitex; other business effects, including the effects of industry, economic or political conditions outside of the companies control; transaction costs; actual or contingent liabilities; as well as other cautionary statements contained elsewhere herein and in time in the companies periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including current reports on Form 8-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and annual reports on Form 10-K. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this press release.

There may be events in the future that the companies are unable to predict accurately, or over which they have no control. Inhibitex s business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may change. Inhibitex may not update these forward-looking statements, even though its situation may change in the future, unless it has obligations under the Federal securities laws to update and disclose material developments related to previously disclosed information. Inhibitex qualifies all of the information contained in this press release, and particularly these forward-looking statements, by these cautionary statements.

Additional Information

The tender offer described in this release has not yet commenced, and this release is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell securities. At the time the tender offer is commenced, Bristol-Myers Squibb will cause a new wholly owned subsidiary, Inta Acquisition Corporation, to file with the SEC a tender offer statement on Schedule TO. Investors and Inhibitex shareholders are strongly advised to read the tender offer statement (including an offer to purchase, letter of transmittal and related tender offer documents) and the related solicitation/recommendation statement on Schedule 14D-9 that will be filed by Inhibitex with the SEC, because they will contain important information. These documents will be available at no charge on the SEC s website at www.sec.gov. In addition, a copy of the offer to purchase, letter of transmittal and certain other related tender offer documents (once they become

available) may be obtained free of charge by directing a request to Bristol-Myers Squibb at www.bms.com or Office of the Corporate Secretary, 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154-0037. A copy of the tender offer statement and the solicitation/recommendation statement will be made available to all shareholders of Inhibitex free of charge at www.inhibitex.com or by contacting Inhibitex, Inc. at 9005 Westside Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009, Telephone Number (678) 746-1100.

In addition to the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and certain other offer documents, as well as the solicitation/recommendation statement, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Inhibitex file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information filed by Bristol-Myers Squibb or Inhibitex at the SEC public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Bristol-Myers Squibb s and Inhibitex s filings with the SEC are also available to the public from commercial document-retrieval services and at the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov.

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