The Aerosol Society, which has been in existence for 26 years, is a scientific, not-for-profit organization, aimed at supporting the study of airborne particles. The membership is drawn from academia, government bodies and industry. Members’ interests are numerous and include climate and atmospheric modelling, nanotechnology, development of inhalation therapies and air pollution measurement. A committee of volunteer aerosol scientists oversees the organization of conferences and events while ensuring one of the Society’s primary aims is met: the encouragement and support of graduate students through travel and research awards.

Multiple meetings and events
Each year, the Aerosol Society arranges a series of meetings and events. A one-day meeting on Fundamentals of Aerosol Science is held in London each winter with the aim of providing introductory training for those new to aerosol science. The Society’s annual general meeting is held during a two-day multi-topic conference in the spring of each year. Other events include more specialized one-day “Focus Meetings” on topics such as volcanic ash, biological aerosols, etc. Drug Delivery to the Lungs has evolved from these one-day meetings, into a highly successful annual conference attracting more than 450 attendees from the global respiratory science community.

Drug Delivery to the Lungs
Drug Delivery to the Lungs (DDL) is an annual conference dedicated to pulmonary and nasal drug delivery. Established in 1989, by a sub-committee of the Aerosol Society, DDL’s mission is to provide a forum for all involved in the advancement of respiratory science to come together, hear about recent developments in the field of inhalation therapy and provide a friendly and informal environment for networking and further discussions. DDL attracts a diverse and extensive selection of posters and presentations. In addition, the networking and exhibition arena historically attracts full capacity with stands from the pharmaceutical industry, suppliers, instrument manufacturers and contract research organizations.

DDL23 to feature four themes
In 2012, DDL23 will be held December 5-7 at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC), Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. This year’s themes are:

- Drug discovery and development
- New approaches to pulmonary and nasal drug delivery
- Advances in analytical science for respiratory products
- The inhaled market—where is it going?

The conference will open with keynote speaker Dr. Malcolm Johnson, a Respiratory Science Consultant at GlaxoSmithKline, who will be discussing “Bronchodilators—the past, present and future.” This will be followed by a series of invited talks from leading academics and industry researchers on the conference themes. In addition, there will be a series of short poster presentations from researchers new to the field.

The Pat Burnell Award
As part of the drive to encourage young researchers, DDL has established the Pat Burnell New Investigator Award. Named after the late Dr. Pat Burnell (one of the driving forces behind the start-up of the DDL conference), this award provides an opportunity for each finalist to present a short podium talk and is awarded to the best research from a junior researcher. Awards for poster prizes and the Pat Burnell New Investigator Award will be presented at a cocktail reception sponsored by Aptar Pharma and Presspart Manufacturing, Limited on the evening of December 6 at the EICC.

For further information on DDL23, please visit www.ddl-conference.org.uk. For further information on the Aerosol Society, go to www.aerosol-soc.org.uk.