

## **Speciality European Pharma divests Speciality European Pharma International and strengthens focus on urology**

Speciality European Pharma (SEP) has completed the sale of SEP International to Maelor plc. Under the terms of the agreement SEP receives an initial sum of £9.25 million with a further £5 million in deferred payments contingent upon Maelor achieving certain regulatory and sales milestones.

The main product asset included in the sale is the critical care product Haemopressin®. Under the terms of the agreement, SEP will retain distribution rights for Haemopressin in Italy and France.

In late 2007, SEP decided to focus on expanding its franchise in urology. The German launch of the first GnRH antagonist, Plenaxis®, was an important step in the execution of this revised strategy.

Geoff McMillan, CEO of SEP says: “The mission we have at SEP is to build a business based on meeting the large unmet medical needs in urology and urological cancers. As the population ages, the incidence of a number of urological conditions is increasing.

“We intend to build Europe’s leading urologist focused speciality company, by successfully launching Plenaxis globally and acquiring the rights for Europe to other urology products. It is an important part of our success to be the partner of choice for companies wanting to bring their products into Europe.”

### **About Speciality European Pharma**

Founded in April 2006, SEP is a privately owned speciality pharmaceutical company. SEP has the mission to become the leading urologist focused speciality pharmaceutical business in Europe.

In January 2007, SEP acquired worldwide rights to Plenaxis®, the world’s first approved GnRH blocker for the treatment of prostate cancer. Plenaxis® gives a rapid and sustained decline in testosterone levels, which gives quick and sustained control of prostate cancer and its symptoms.

On stopping treatment with Plenaxis, testosterone levels recover although disease activity can remain under control for some time. Plenaxis® was launched in Germany in February 2008.

SEP has its own commercial operations in the major EU countries and will market its products in other regions and territories through relationships with expert partners.

SEP is backed by Advent Venture Partners.

### **About Advent Venture Partners**

Advent Venture Partners (“Advent Ventures”) is one of the most experienced venture capital firms in the UK. Established in 1981 it invests in both the life science and technology sectors. Advent Ventures

has raised over US\$1 billion from institutional investors across Europe and the USA since 1998.

Recent investments by the Advent Ventures Life Sciences team include Norwegian radiopharmaceuticals company Algeta; Dutch gene-medicine company Amsterdam Molecular Therapeutics; UK-based Thiakis, which develops hormone-based treatments for obesity; and the Swiss therapeutic antibody company 4-Antibody.

*Please visit: [www.adventventures.com](http://www.adventventures.com)*

**Contact details**

Billy Hargan  
Senior VP Marketing, Speciality European Pharma Ltd  
Suite 106, The Spirella Building, Bridge Road  
Letchworth Garden City  
Hertfordshire SG6 4ET, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)7872 600022  
Email: [billy.hargan@spepharma.com](mailto:billy.hargan@spepharma.com)