

## **Orrick Hölters & Elsing Accompanies Leading British Pharmaceutical Wholesaler Alliance Boots by Acquisition of German Megapharm GmbH**

Orrick Hölters & Elsing announced today that its client, Alliance Boots, has acquired a 90% stake in Megapharm GmbH, a specialised German distributor of oncology products. The acquisition, which has recently been approved by EU competition regulators, will enable Alliance Boots to enhance its position in the specialty drugs sector. Based in Sankt Augustin, near Bonn, Megapharm provides a range of specialised wholesaling and logistics services for oncology products. It is the only wholesaler in Germany to supply the full range of oncology drugs. The revenue for Megapharm for the year ended 31 March 2008 was approximately £235 million.

Within Alliance Boots, the new business will become part of the Pharmaceutical Wholesale Division. A 10% stake in Megapharm will be held by Dr. Matthias Ackermann, its current Chief Executive, who will continue to lead the business.

Alliance Boots was assisted by Orrick Hölters & Elsing Partners Dr. Stefan Weinheimer as lead counsel, Konstantin Heitmann (both Corporate & M&A), Dr. Andrés Martin-Ehlers (Cartel Law) and Dr. Christoph F. Wetzler (Finance). The matters of the shares in Megapharm GmbH were represented by Dr. Gerhard Lang and Dr. Daniel Wiegand of Hengeler Müller in Munich. Regarding the retain stake, Dr. Matthias Ackermann was advised by Dr. Martin Lohse.

Orrick has more than 150 M&A lawyers strategically located in commercial and financial centres throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. Its clients include large, publicly held corporations, middle-market companies and emerging enterprises, as well as financial advisors such as private equity and investment banking firms. Orrick's M&A lawyers are involved in many prominent acquisition and disposition transactions that garner "M&A Deal of the Year" awards due to their large size, cross-border complexity, innovative structures and multiparty solutions.

Orrick's leading M&A reputation is attributable to the combination of its well-proven M&A skills and its ability to immediately field an integrated, multidisciplinary, global team of lawyers who counsel on all of the critical aspects of an M&A transaction, including antitrust, bankruptcy and debt restructuring, banking, corporate, compensation and benefits, employment, environmental, intellectual property, litigation, private equity, products liability litigation, real estate, regulatory, securities, securities litigation, tax and technology transactions. Orrick's unique ability to proactively analyse a potential transaction from all of

these critical angles is the key to its clients' success - the successful closing of a transaction or the timely determination not to.

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### **About Orrick**

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP is a global law firm with more than 1,200 lawyers in North America, Europe and Asia. The firm focuses on litigation, complex and novel finance and innovative corporate transactions. Orrick clients include *Fortune* 100 companies, major industrial and financial corporations, commercial and investment banks, high-growth companies, governmental entities, start-ups and individuals. The firm's 21 offices are located in Beijing, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, Milan, Moscow, New York, Orange County, Pacific Northwest, Paris, Rome, Sacramento, San Francisco, Shanghai, Silicon Valley, Taipei, Tokyo and Washington, D.C.

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