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Körber Builds Up New Business Segment

Acquisition of Weimer Pharma – New Subsidiary Established for Innovative and Customized Pharmaceutical Packaging

The Hamburg-based Körber Group is acquiring Weimer Pharma GmbH, Rastatt, Germany. The distinguished contract pharmaceuticals manufacturer and developer is to become part of the Körber Medipak Group, and will extend the spectrum of the dynamically growing Körber business area.

Körber Medipak is the world's only supplier of complete packaging systems for the pharmaceutical industry which is able to offer packaging and automation solutions for a variety of medical dosage forms from a single source. Due to rising demand for complex and customized pharmaceutical products, Körber Medipak will be able to extend its range of products and services in conjunction with Weimer Pharma. The technological partnership between the established pharmaceuticals manufacturer Weimer and Körber packaging specialists opens the door to additional market opportunities for both companies.

Weimer Pharma has operated as a contract pharmaceuticals manufacturer for other pharmaceutical manufacturers Europe-wide for the past 70 years. The company recorded sales of €33 million in the past year with 300 employees at its site in Rastatt. Körber Medipak will invest in the established core business as well as in new technologies at the company premises, thereby helping to safeguard the company's long-term future.

Parallel to this, Körber Medipak is also building up a new business field. The recently-founded Group company AvidiaMed specializes in customized pharmaceutical packaging. With its product MediFalter, it is launching an innovative and unique solution for the customized provision of pharmaceutical products to patients. In view of demographic trends in Germany, the adequate provisioning of elderly patients who suffer from chronic ailments is becoming an increasingly critical socio-economic issue. Establishing clarity and transparency when it comes to applying required long-term medication is considered a key to therapeutic success in respect of the treatment of elderly, chronically ill patients. This is precisely the problem addressed by AvidiaMed's MediFalter concept.



Its concept, design and systems set the MediFalter apart from the conventional customized provision of pharmaceutical products to patients. And with the so-called unit-dose procedure, it also has a unique selling proposition. With the MediFalter, each tablet is packed in an individual blister cup and included in a blister pack which is designed to last for one week. The procedure ensures not just the clear identification of the individual active ingredients, but also excludes cross-contamination between the individual tablets. This intelligent product solution combines the classic advantages of blister packs with clear gains in terms of pharmaceutical safety when dealing with a large number of different medications.

The MediFalter is to be manufactured by Weimer Pharma. A market test will be conducted in the fall of 2009.

Körber Medipak GmbH is the lead company of the Körber Group's Pharmaceutical Packaging Systems business area. With its 672 employees, Körber Medipak generated sales totaling €111 million in the past year.

The Körber Group is a leading international technology group with over 9,500 employees around the world. Sales last year totaled €1.75 billion.

For further information:

Körber Medipak GmbH

Simone Steiner

Strategic Marketing & Communication

Tel.: 040 / 211 07-484

Fax: 040 / 211 07-481

E-Mail: simone.steiner@koerber-medipak.com

www.koerber-medipak.com