



**9th October 2008**

## **NORGINE PARTNERS WITH AJINOMOTO FOR MOVIPREP® IN JAPAN**

Norgine, the leading European specialty pharmaceutical company, has today announced that it has granted Ajinomoto the exclusive rights to develop, manufacture and market MOVIPREP® in Japan.

MOVIPREP is a novel patent-protected product developed by Norgine for bowel cleansing prior to colonoscopy and other situations where a clean bowel is required. The product is marketed by Norgine in Europe and in the USA by its partner Salix Pharmaceuticals.

In return for the rights granted to it, Ajinomoto will make an upfront payment to Norgine as well as further milestones and royalty payments on sales. The precise details of the deal have not been disclosed.

“This agreement with Norgine underlines Ajinomoto’s commitment to the prevention and treatment of gastrointestinal diseases,” said Mr. Tomoyasu Toyoda, President of Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Pharmaceutical Company.

“Ajinomoto put Niflec®, a pioneer of orally-available bowel cleaning agent in Japan, on the market. It is with great pleasure that we are able to add a new choice for patients. We are looking forward to developing the partnership with Norgine.”

Commenting on the agreement Peter Stein, Norgine’s CEO, said “We are delighted to be working with Ajinomoto on what will be our first product onto the Japanese market. As the established market leaders in bowel preparations in Japan, Norgine could not have found a better partner. We look forward to working with Ajinomoto in bringing MOVIPREP to Japan.”

## ENDS

### Notes to editor

Norgine is an independent, successful European specialty pharmaceutical company that has been established for over 100 years and has a presence in all the major European markets. In 2007 Norgine's sales were €220 million, the 21st consecutive year of double-digit growth. The company employs over 1,000 people of whom around 400 are in sales and marketing.

Norgine's current focus is pharmaceutical products that address significant unmet clinical need in areas such as gastroenterology, hepatology and pain management. The company currently markets a range of products in its key therapeutic areas e.g. MOVICOL<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of chronic constipation and faecal impaction, MOVIPREP<sup>®</sup> a new generation bowel cleansing preparation, KLEAN-PREP<sup>®</sup> for bowel preparation prior to colonoscopy, and ORAMORPH<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of moderate to severe pain associated with cancer.

Norgine has an active Research and Development effort and currently has products at various stages of clinical development. In addition to its site at Hengoed, Norgine also has a manufacturing site at Dreux in France.

Norgine's website is [www.norgine.com](http://www.norgine.com)

### About Ajinomoto Co., Inc.

Ajinomoto Co., Inc. is a Japanese company with global operation in food, amino acid and pharmaceutical businesses. Its consolidated annual sales and operating income in 2007 were 1,217 billion yen and 61 billion yen, respectively. In pharmaceuticals sector, Ajinomoto aims to contribute to the health and better quality of life of all people over the world through research and development of pharmaceuticals created by the technologies relating to amino acid, chemistry and nutrition in which Ajinomoto has much experience and know-how. Especially Ajinomoto focuses efforts on "gastrointestinal diseases", "transfusion, nutrition, dialysis", and "lifestyle diseases". The annual sales in pharmaceutical business (consolidated, FY2007) amounted to 84 billion yen and the operating profits reached 15 billion yen by Ajinomoto Group's domestic sales as well as the sales by domestic and overseas allied sales channels.

Ajinomoto's website is [www.ajinomoto.com](http://www.ajinomoto.com)

### For further information, please contact:

Paul Pay, Vice-President, Corporate & Business Development, Norgine

T: +44 (0)1895 453710

E: [ppay@norgine.com](mailto:ppay@norgine.com)