



August 6th, 2007

Hisamitsu Pharmaceutical Co.,Inc.

**Press Release relating to the Exclusive Sales and Distribution Rights for NORSPAN®**

Hisamitsu Pharmaceutical (Headquarters: Saga, President: NAKATOMI, Hiroataka “Hisamitsu”), Mundipharma International Limited, (“Mundipharma”) and Mundipharma K.K., Japan (“Mundipharma K.K.”) today announced that they have entered into an exclusive arrangement in which Hisamitsu will acquire the exclusive sales and distribution rights for Japan for NORSPAN®, a buprenorphine transdermal patch for the treatment of non-malignant chronic moderate to severe low back and osteoarthritis pain.

Under the terms of the exclusive agreements, Hisamitsu will make an upfront payment of US\$30 million upon signing and will make milestone payments based on progress of clinical development of NORSPAN®. Hisamitsu will also pay additional sales milestone payments after the launch of NORSPAN® if the actual annual net sales exceed the predetermined annual sales figures.

“This deal is very significant for the on-going development of Mundipharma’s Asia Pacific business. The scale of the deal is indicative of the growing importance and relevance of chronic non-malignant moderate to severe pain management not only in Japan but also in Asia” stated Henrik Glarbo, Mundipharma’s Regional Managing Director for Asia Pacific.

NORSPAN® is a transdermal patch containing buprenorphine designed to control moderate to severe lower back pain and osteoarthritis, which cannot be well managed by a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (“NSAID”). In Japan, Mundipharma K.K., which was established in 1998, has been conducting phase III clinical studies and expects the product to be launched in 2010.

Hisamitsu currently focuses on selling MOHRUS® Tape (ketoprofen), an external NSAID antiphlogistic analgesic adhesive skin patch, and has HFT-290 (fentanyl citrate), an adhesive patch that controls malignant pain, in Phase III clinical studies in Japan. The addition of NORSPAN®, a non-malignant chronic pain control drug, which meets the high medical needs in the market, adds to the existing product portfolio and R&D pipeline of Hisamitsu. The addition of NORSPAN® will enable Hisamitsu to provide a complete portfolio of therapeutic drugs to control mild to moderate and severe non-malignant pain as well as malignant pain, thus enabling Hisamitsu to make even greater contributions to improve the quality of life of chronic pain patients.

[Please see the following note for the NORSPAN® and the company profile of Mundipharma]

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<Note to Editor>

### **About NORSPAN®**

NORSPAN® is a buprenorphine transdermal skin patch developed by Mundipharma K.K. and is currently sold in several international markets. NORSPAN® is in Phase III clinical studies in Japan and is expected to be launched in 2010 for the control of lower back pain and pain due to osteoarthritis which cannot be controlled by NSAIDs.

### **About Mundipharma**

Mundipharma specializes in the treatment of moderate to severe pain, cancer, respiratory diseases, constipation and antisepsis and is active in more than 70 countries worldwide through a network of independent associated companies and partners. In Japan, Mundipharma K.K. has long-standing partnerships with a number of major Japanese pharmaceutical companies and has successfully partnered products in the past such as ISODINE® (povidone-iodine), MS CONTIN® Tablets (controlled release morphine sulfate) and OXYCONTIN® Tablets (controlled release oxycodone hydrochloride) and OXINORM® powder (immediate release oxycodone hydrochloride hydrate).

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