



## **NORGINE PARTNERS WITH SALIX FOR MOVIPREP® IN THE USA**

12 December 2005

Norgine, the European specialty pharmaceutical company has announced that it has granted Salix Pharmaceuticals the exclusive rights to market MOVIPREP (NRL994) in the USA. This novel, patent-protected product has been developed for bowel cleansing prior to colonoscopy, intestinal surgery and other situations where a clean bowel is required. MOVIPREP (NRL994) is currently under review at the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Salix will make up-front and milestone payments to Norgine, which could total up to \$37 million. Norgine is responsible for supplying product to Salix and Salix will pay Norgine royalties on sales.

Commenting on the agreement Peter Stein, Norgine's CEO said, "We are delighted to be working with Salix on what will be our first product entry into the US market. As a leader in the gastroenterology market, we believe Salix is well positioned to develop the potential for MOVIPREP (NRL994) in the USA and we look forward to doing what we can to support this".

Carolyn Logan, President and CEO of Salix, commented "We are pleased about the opportunity of working with Norgine to maximise the potential the bowel cleansing market offers. The acquisition of US rights to MOVIPREP (NRL994) advances our effort to build a bowel cleansing franchise".

Salix Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina, develops and markets prescription pharmaceutical products for the treatment

of gastrointestinal diseases. Salix's strategy is to acquire late-stage or marketed proprietary therapeutic drugs, complete any required development and regulatory submission of these products, and market them through the Company's gastroenterology specialty sales and marketing team.

## ENDS

### Notes to editor

Norgine is an independent, successful European specialty pharmaceutical company that has been established for almost 100 years and has a presence in all the major European markets. In 2004 Norgine's sales were €155 million, the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of double-digit growth. The company employs 950 people, of which 350 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® for the treatment of chronic constipation and faecal impaction, KLEAN-PREP® for bowel preparation prior to colonoscopy, and ORAMORPH® 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.

Norgine has two manufacturing sites; Hengoed in the UK and Dreux, France.

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

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