



Gentium Appoints Link Pharmaceuticals as Exclusive Distributor of Defibrotide in Australia and New Zealand

VILLA GUARDIA (COMO), Italy, June 15, 2011, (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Gentium S.p.A. (NASDAQ: GENT) announced the appointment of Link Pharmaceuticals as exclusive distributor of Defibrotide in Australia and New Zealand. Under the terms of the agreement, Link will be responsible for managing named patient requests.

“We have received a considerable number of named patient requests for Defibrotide in this region, but unfortunately we have been unable to guarantee to supply Defibrotide from Europe as quickly as is sometimes needed,” commented Dr. Massimo Iacobelli, SVP and Scientific Director of Gentium. “Patients with Venous Occlusive Disease are often gravely ill and in urgent need of speedy access to this potentially life-saving treatment. The appointment of Link, who will maintain a stock of Defibrotide in Australia, should effectively address this need.”

John Bacon, CEO of Link, commented, “Link is delighted to be forming a business relationship with Gentium for the supply of Defibrotide. This is a potentially life-saving therapeutic and will compliment Link’s portfolio of highly specialized and clinically essential orphan products. We look forward to a long collaboration with Gentium and securing the supply of Defibrotide to hospitals in Australia and New Zealand.”

About Gentium

Gentium S.p.A., located in Como, Italy, is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and manufacture of drugs to treat and prevent a variety of diseases and conditions, including vascular diseases related to cancer and cancer treatments. Defibrotide, the Company's lead product candidate, is an investigational drug that has been granted Orphan Drug status by the U.S. FDA and Orphan Medicinal Product Designation by the European Commission both to treat and to prevent VOD and Fast Track Designation by the U.S. FDA to treat VOD. Gentium’s Marketing Authorization Application for Defibrotide was recently accepted by the European Medicines Agency and was granted an accelerated assessment. The company expects to file a New Drug Application with the U.S. FDA by the end of Q2 2011.

About Link Pharmaceuticals

Link Pharmaceuticals is focused on marketing a diverse range of specialist and vitally important therapeutic products in Australasia.

The Company's success is based on a decade of strong performance from a pharmaceutical division which has developed an impressive portfolio of acquired and in-licensed specialist therapeutic products. With headquarters in Sydney and regional offices in Auckland and Singapore, Link focuses on being an excellent partner to both customers and licensors.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements." In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as "may," "might," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or "continue," the negative of these terms and other comparable terminology. These statements are not historical facts but instead represent the Company's belief regarding future results, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside the Company's control. It is possible that actual results, including with respect to the possibility of any future regulatory approval, may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements. For a discussion of some of the risks and important factors that could affect future results, see the discussion in our Form 20-F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the caption "Risk Factors."

SOURCE: Gentium S.p.A.

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