



Roskilde, 9 November 2004

Press Release

Nycomed Group interim results – first nine months 2004

The financial results reported in this release are related to the fully-owned Nycomed subsidiary, Nyco Holdings 2 ApS, which through its subsidiaries and affiliates, comprises all of the Nycomed Group's operations. A full report is available under www.nycomed.com | investors | interim reports.

Highlights

The CIS continues strong performance – satisfactory growth in most markets

- In the first nine months of 2004, total net turnover increased by 0.7% from € 471.2 million to € 474.7 million (€ 3.5 million). Excluding the divested consumer health business and the effect of exchange rate fluctuations, net turnover increased in the first nine months of 2004 by € 34.5 million (7.8%) compared to the same period in 2003.
- The CIS continued to perform strongly and grew by 32.2% from a net turnover of € 52.1 million in the first nine months of 2003 to € 68.9 million. In local trade currency (USD) the increase was close to 50%. In Scandinavia, net turnover decreased by 13.3%, from € 137.8 million to € 119.4, primarily due to the divestment of the consumer healthcare business last year. The remaining regions developed satisfactory and according to plan.
- Adjusted EBITDA for the first nine months of 2004 grew by 1% from 93.8 million to 94.7 million. Excluding EBITDA from the sale of the consumer healthcare business in 2003 and the negative impact from foreign exchange currency fluctuations, adjusted EBITDA for the first nine months of 2004 increased by 8.9%.
- The increase in adjusted EBITDA is primarily due to low cost of goods and high yield in production, especially related to the production of TachoSil® in Austria.

Launch and production of new key product

- In September 2004 the EU Commission issued a marketing authorisation for Angiox™, and initial launches have taken place in Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany and Sweden. With the launch of Angiox™, Nycomed adds a product to its hospital-specialist portfolio with at least a € 100 million annual sales potential.

- The expansion of our factory in Linz, Austria, has been completed within budget and time. The validation work of the new site is in process, following a gradual start-up of production during first half of 2005. The new site will take over production of TachoSil[®], the other new key product for the hospital-specialist sector, which was given European marketing authorisation in June this year.

Refinancing

- In September 2004 Nycomed signed a new Senior Facilities Agreement of € 455 million of which € 415 is term loans to refinance our existing senior debt. The new agreement increases flexibility and has increased the in-licensing facility from € 40 million to € 70 million. The Agreement was signed with Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken and Nordea Bank Danmark as mandated lead arrangers and has reduced the number of participants from 32 to five.

CEO statement

- "Our results for the first nine months are very satisfactory given the investments we are making in our new markets and products. We have been able to increase sales in most of our markets. Especially encouraging is the development in the CIS which continues to perform very strongly. And with the initial launches of our two new key products, Angiox[™] and TachoSil[®], we are in an excellent position to create a strong performance for the years to come," said Håkan Björklund, Nycomed CEO.

Financial background

Adjusted EBITDA means net income before net financial items, income taxes, depreciation of tangible assets and amortization of intangible assets, adjusted for certain unusual or non-recurring items. In connection with the acquisition of Nycomed Holding ApS on 29 November 2002, purchase accounting has been applied and has affected and will continue to affect our results of operations, which are included in the adjusted EBITDA.

We have recorded significant adjustments to intangible assets (patents and other intellectual property rights, goodwill, in-process-research and development and the contract manufacturing business) and tangible assets (property, plant and equipment). The purchase accounting also led to adjusted inventory values at the time of the acquisition to reflect its resale value rather than its cost, this has resulted in a non-recurring, non-cash charge of € 40.2 million of which € 6.6 million was booked in December 2002, € 20.6 million in the first quarter of 2003 and € 13.0 million in the second quarter of 2003, booked to indirect production costs.

Financial Calendar

The annual results for 2004 are expected to be announced on 2 March 2005.

About Nycomed

Nycomed is a pharmaceutical company differentiating itself by its European focus. The company's capabilities include product sourcing, late-stage clinical trials, registration, pricing and reimbursement negotiation and product life-cycle management. Dedicated sales teams target hospital specialists throughout Europe and general practitioners and pharmacists in selected markets.

With 2,800 people, mostly in marketing & sales, Nycomed covers 19 European markets including Russia/CIS. Products are also exported to other countries including Japan and the United States. Nycomed is a privately owned company with 2003 revenue of € 635.5 million.

Further information is available on: www.nycomed.com

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