



Maelor plc

21 July 2004

Maelor Appoints Volplex® Distributor for South Korea

Maelor plc, the specialist healthcare products company, today announced that it has appointed a partner for the distribution of its plasma substitute product, Volplex, in South Korea.

The agreement with Helicon Group Pty Ltd is an extension to the existing agreement, announced in February 2004, for China. Helicon is responsible for the regulatory submission in South Korea, which should be completed this year in parallel with the application in China.

After China, South Korea is the second largest pharmaceutical market in Asia, worth over US\$9 billion in 2002, and growing faster than the global market. [Source: Research and Markets]

Volplex (succinylated gelatin) is given as an intravenous infusion to substitute for blood volume lost by patients suffering from the effects of trauma, surgery or certain medical conditions which result in hypovolaemia (lower than normal blood volume). Since launch last year, the product has established itself by winning major contracts in the £8m UK market through its distributor Cambridge Laboratories. Volplex has expanded its international franchise over the last few months, gaining regulatory approval in Argentina in December 2003 where it will be launched later this year. In preparation for launch Maelor has established partners in South Africa and Bangladesh (where regulatory applications have already been submitted) and also in Australia and China.

Stephen Appelbee, CEO of Maelor plc, said: "We are pleased to have expanded the use of Volplex into South Korea which opens up another major market for this important product."

Dr Saliba Sassine, Chairman of Helicon Group, added: "South Korea is a substantial opportunity for us and this agreement with Maelor gives us broad access to the North Asia market."

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Notes to editors:

Maelor plc

Maelor is an AIM-listed specialist healthcare products company. Maelor operates on a virtual basis, outsourcing both product development and manufacturing. The company has several products on the market including OptiFlo®, ContiSol™ and Volplex.

OptiFlo, a urethral catheter maintenance range, launched in the UK in June 1999 and distributed through Bard Limited, has gained a 42% share of the UK community prescription market.

ContiSol, Maelor's own brand urethral catheter maintenance range, has already been launched in Spain and Greece. The product has also gained approval in Argentina where launch is expected shortly.

Maelor has various products under development including micelle propofol, a reformulation of the world's biggest selling general anaesthetic.

*Volplex® and ContiSol™ are trademarks of Maelor Pharmaceuticals Limited
OptiFlo® is a trademark of Bard Limited*

