

Press Release

## **Sandoz Canada inaugurates new head office in Boucherville following a further \$12 million investment**

**Boucherville, October 1, 2009** – Sandoz Canada Inc., a leader in the generic drug industry, inaugurated its new head office on August 29 in Boucherville. At an open house for employees and their families, Sandoz celebrated the official opening of the four-storey building, constructed following a \$12 million investment. Moreover, guests at the day-long open house were able to appreciate the results of an \$80 million investment, announced in 2007, namely the construction of a new state-of-the-art facility and upgrade of existing facilities.

Generic drugs are a flourishing industry in Canada, and especially of interest these days due to the fact that the CGPA (Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association) is hosting the IGPA (International Generic Pharmaceutical Alliance) 12<sup>th</sup> annual conference, which is being held at the Westin Hotel in Montréal from September 30 to October 2. It is noteworthy that Mr. Pierre Fréchette, President and CEO of Sandoz Canada Inc. also chair of the CGPA board. According to Mr. Fréchette, Sandoz is leaving its mark in Canada as a fast-growing generics company that is firmly rooted in Québec. “We are proud of having doubled the number of our employees from 320 in 2001 to nearly 700 in 2009”, says Fréchette. “In addition, investments made in recent years clearly indicate the company’s readiness to respond to client demand with the swift roll-out of an unparalleled range of high-quality and affordable products.”

### **About Sandoz Canada Inc.**

With more than 209 molecules, Sandoz Canada offers one of the broadest portfolios of generic products in Canada. Through product development and innovation, Sandoz demonstrates its leadership by constantly adding to its existing portfolio.

Sandoz develops, produces, markets and distributes a wide array of oral, topical, rectal, ophthalmic, and injectable generic products in different forms (suspension, solution, tablet, capsule, cream, ointment, suppository, gelcap) and various formats (ampoules, vials, bottles, mini bags, transdermal patches).

Through its ability to rise to the numerous challenges inherent to the development of sterile generic products, Sandoz Canada’s Development Centre has built a reputation for excellence within the Novartis group.

Sandoz Canada employs about 700 people, mostly based at its Boucherville facilities (South Shore of Montréal).

### **About Sandoz globally**

Sandoz, a Division of the Novartis group, is a global leader in the field of generic pharmaceuticals, offering a wide array of high-quality, affordable products. Sandoz has a portfolio of over 1000 molecules in more than 130 countries. Key product groups include anti-infectious, central nervous system and cardiovascular agents, gastrointestinal medicines, and hormonal therapies. In addition to developing, producing and marketing this wide array of medicines, Sandoz is a true leader in the worldwide development of subsequent entry biologics. Not only did Sandoz show a strong organic growth in recent years, but it also made a series of acquisitions including Lek (Slovenia), Sabex (Canada), Hexal (Germany) and Eon Labs (US). In 2008, Sandoz employed around 23,000 people worldwide and posted sales of USD 7.6 billion.

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