

Helsinn Chemical Operations is constantly becoming more environmentally friendly

Helsinn Advanced Synthesis SA is on the cutting edge of new technology to protect the environment and cut costs

Biasca, Switzerland, February 2, 2010

– Global warming is becoming more and more a topic of interest especially after the wrap-up of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen, Denmark in December 2009. Helsinn has consistently kept environmental protection as a goal which is a vision coming down from the group CEO, Dr. Riccardo Braglia.

Helsinn Chemicals SA in Biasca celebrated 25 years in September 2009 and again the importance of environment was highlighted. “We manufacture exclusively according to cGMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) standards, at high quality levels,” explains Paolo Guainazzi, General Manager of the Biasca plants. “We are ISO 14001 certified since 2000 and one of the first chemical plants in Switzerland to have received OHSAS 18001 certification in 2005. This evidences that our plants and all of our staff, today over 105, pay great attention to the quality of work, health

and environmental protection,” continues Dr. Guainazzi.

“There have been two major initiatives implemented in 2010 that exemplify Helsinn’s passion for the importance of environment protection. These two initiatives were the installation of a Cryogenic unit and a Heat Pump Circuit” says Marco Soardi, Responsible for all Engineering and Maintenance activities at Helsinn at Biasca.

The Cryogenic abatement unit (*please see photo below*) works by cooling the





vent stream by means of liquid nitrogen. This investment has helped Helsinn exceed the rigorous Swiss compliance norms regarding emission of VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds), resulting in lower emissions (<20 mg/m³) even for the most demanding substances.

The Heat Pump Circuit is an installation that uses water coming from the cooling circuit to produce hot water for heating office areas in combination with an existing gasoline heater. It was implemented in October and has a triple fold advantage. First Helsinn will be able to reduce CO₂ emissions by 128 ton/year (21%). Secondly, fuel consumption has already been reduced by 54,000 L (24%). Lastly, the cooling water consumption has been reduced by 23,000 M3 (5%).

The commitment of Helsinn is clear to all of its collaborators when it comes to environment.

About the Helsinn Group

Helsinn is a privately owned pharmaceutical group with headquarters in Lugano, Switzerland, and subsidiaries in Ireland and USA.

Helsinn's unique business model is focused on the licensing of pharmaceuticals and medical devices in therapeutic niche areas. The Group in-licenses early stage new chemical entities, completes their development

from the performance of pre-clinical/clinical studies and Chemistry, Manufacturing and Control (CMC) development, to the filing for and attainment of their market approval worldwide.

Helsinn's products are sold directly, through the Group subsidiaries, or eventually out-licensed to its network of local marketing and commercial partners, selected for their deep in-market knowledge and know-how, and assisted and supported with a full range of product and scientific management services, including commercial, regulatory, financial, legal and medical marketing advice.

The active pharmaceutical ingredients and the finished dosage forms are manufactured at Helsinn's cGMP facilities in Switzerland and Ireland, and supplied worldwide to its customers.

Helsinn is the worldwide licensor of palonosetron and of the original nimesulide, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) distributed in more than 50 countries worldwide.

Helsinn, with a workforce of around 450 employees in Switzerland, Ireland and USA, reported a 2008 turnover of over CHF 280.3 million (about EUR 178 million), covering 75 countries worldwide, with over 20% of this turnover invested in R&D.



For more information about Helsinn Group, please visit the website:
www.helsinn.com

**Contact person at
Helsinn Advanced Synthesis SA:**

Waldo Mossi

Director, Business Development

Ph: +41 91 873 01 10

manufacturing@helsinn.com