
ASX ANNOUNCEMENT (ASX: ANO)

30 APRIL 2009

ANTARIA AND MERCK SIGN LICENSING AGREEMENT

Antaria Limited (Antaria) today announced it had executed a licensing agreement with the global pharmaceuticals and chemicals group Merck KGaA (Merck) of Darmstadt, Germany, for the exclusive worldwide rights to Antaria's plate-like alumina technology for use in Merck's cosmetics and industrial products.

This technology is employed in Antaria's soft focus cosmetics pigment, Alusion[®], and also the AIPearl[™] pearlescent paint pigment substrate. Under the agreement, Merck has exclusive rights to manufacture and sell products using this technology in cosmetics, coatings, printings, plastics and/or decorative applications.

The agreement provides for Antaria to receive an upfront payment of Euro 1.3 million in two installments over the first year of the license and an additional ongoing royalty on Merck's sale of products incorporating this technology. During the initial period of the license, Antaria will toll manufacture Alusion[®] and other products for Merck and also provide contract research and development on a fee-for-service basis.

Bruce Cameron, Executive Chairman of Antaria stated "We are delighted to partner with such an outstanding company as Merck, and their decision to invest in this technology demonstrates the quality of the creative ideas that Antaria can deliver. Merck's internationally recognised expertise in alumina based pearlescent pigments combined with their market dominance should secure worldwide recognition for Antaria's unique plate-like alumina technology."

About Antaria

Antaria Limited develops, manufactures and sells a range of advanced metal oxide powders and dispersions worldwide. Antaria's products are marketed under five parent brands, **ZinClear[®]** – broad spectrum, mineral-only UV filters in cosmetic emollients used for sunscreen, skincare, and pharmaceutical formulations that allow SPF 30+ sunscreens containing only zinc oxide as the UV absorber; **Alusion[®]** – plate-shaped particles used to enhance colour cosmetics formulations to mask wrinkles and fine lines; **AIPearl[™]** – alumina particles for industrial pigment applications; **Cercat[™]** – cerium oxide particle dispersion used in diesel fuel applications; and **NanoZ[™]** – zinc oxide additives that allow stable UV absorber performance for coatings and plastics.

About Merck

Merck is a global pharmaceutical and chemical company with total revenues of € 7.6 billion in 2008, a history that began in 1668, and a future shaped by 32,800 employees in 59 countries. Its success is characterised by innovations from entrepreneurial employees. Merck's operating activities come under the umbrella of Merck KGaA, in which the Merck family holds an approximately 70% interest and free shareholders own the remaining approximately 30%. In 1917 the U.S. subsidiary Merck & Co. was expropriated and has been an independent company ever since.

For Further Information

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