

Release on Tuesday, August 5th, 2008 / 5 PM EST

Press Release

Charles River Laboratories Inc., Wilmington, MA, acquires NewLab BioQuality AG, Erkrath

The shareholders of the Erkrath based biotech company NewLab BioQuality AG have signed an acquisition agreement about the sale of all company shares to a subsidiary of the publicly listed Charles River Laboratories International Inc., which is headquartered near Boston, USA. The acquisition will be made for a cash consideration of € 34m. The transaction is expected to close by the end of the third quarter of 2008, subject to customary regulatory approvals.

“The commitment of one of the world’s biggest biotechnological service providers to a German based company highlights Germany’s position as a pre-eminent and high quality location for research and development in the biotech sector”, Jürgen Schumacher, PhD, founder and Chief Executive Officer of NewLab BioQuality AG and co-founder of Qiagen AG said. “Due to the strong dedication of our employees, the high educational level, and the excellent business environment we have grown to a successfully operating global player in the highly competitive bioanalytics market. In collaboration with Charles River, we will accelerate the further development of NewLab BioQuality AG’s significant market potential”.

Prof. Peter Stadler, PhD, Chairman of NewLab BioQuality AG’s supervisory board and Chief Executive Officer of TaconicArtemis GmbH, is convinced that NewLab BioQuality AG’s long-term future in Germany is secured. “Our knowledge, innovative strengths and our high quality services in conjunction with a focused corporate strategy enabled NewLab to grow to a pre-eminent position in global competition”.

NewLab BioQuality AG is a worldwide leading service provider in the area of quality analysis for biopharmaceutical companies. Using highly sophisticated analyzing tools at its two facilities in Cologne and Erkrath, the company provides high quality and efficient cell bank tests, virus und TSE safety studies as well as product characterizations.

NewLab BioQuality AG is GLP and GMP certified and fulfils all requirements by international regulatory authorities. With a devoted team of 130 employees, NewLab Bio Quality AG is a fast growing and profitable company, expecting revenues of € 13m- € 15m for the current financial year 2008.

Charles River is a leading provider of research models and services and preclinical and Phase I drug development services to the biopharmaceutical market. The company had sales of USD 1.2 bn in the financial year 2007 and currently employs more than 8,800 people. The acquisition of NewLab BioQuality AG will perfectly complement Charles River’s service portfolio and process validation division and provides an effective access to the European market. New Lab BioQuality AG is going to be integrated in the preclinical services / biopharmaceutical services division. Together, the two companies are going to offer one the world’s largest portfolio of biopharmaceutical services.

NewLab BioQuality AG received lead advisory services by Ernst & Young Corporate Finance Beratung GmbH, Düsseldorf, and legal advice by Schmidt Schuran & Partner, Düsseldorf while Charles River received legal advisory services by Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP.

Contact:

Dr. Guy Berg
Senior Vice President
NewLab BioQuality AG
Max-Planck-Str. 15a
40699 Erkrath
Germany

Tel.: +49 (0)211 9255 309
guy.berg@newlab.de