UNITED DRUG ACQUIRES BELGIAN BASED PHARMACEUTICAL CONTRACT PACKAGING BUSINESS

United Drug plc, a leading provider of services to healthcare manufacturers and pharmaceutical retailers in Ireland and the UK today (Wednesday, 11th April 2007) announced that it has acquired the Pharma and Healthcare packaging division of Budelpack International, based in Hamont in Northern Belgium.

The Budelpack Hamont business is an FDA-approved facility that provides a full range of contract packaging services designed specifically for the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry and they work with a number of international manufacturers throughout Europe. The business currently employs approximately 140 people, including senior management, all of whom will remain with the business.

Speaking today, United Drug’s Chief Executive, Liam FitzGerald said:

“The acquisition of the Budelpack Hamont business is a significant development for our Supply Chain Services Division and for the United Drug Group. This is the first development into Continental Europe of our strategy to build an international pharma and healthcare services company and a continuation of our focus on higher margin activities where we can add value to our pharmaceutical and healthcare manufacturer customer base. The acquired business fits very well with our existing packaging business in the UK, TD Packaging.

“Budelpack Hamont is a business focussed on delivering a high quality service to customers and it is led by an excellent management team. I welcome all new employees to the United Drug Group”.

Ends.
Wednesday, 11th April 2007

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