

PRESS RELEASE

Iris Pharma, Winner of the High Performance Prize in the Growth Category

A GLOBAL SERVICE PROVIDER OF PRECLINICAL AND CLINICAL RESEARCH IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

Nice, France – November 16, 2010 – Iris Pharma, a French Contract Research Organization (CRO) specialized on preclinical research and clinical trials in the field of ophthalmology, announced today that the newspaper Les Echos has just awarded it the « High Performance Prize » in recognition of its growth performance.

Since 1989, Iris Pharma has been specializing in ophthalmology, a profitable niche market associated with an aging population. Despite a sensitive economic context, its choice of specialization, combined with a coherent, long-term corporate strategy, made it possible to achieve continuous growth between 2008 and 2009. *“We are proud to be awarded this famous « High Performance Prize » from Les Echos. It recognizes 21 years of innovation, of seeking the most appropriate solutions for our customers, of commitment in the quest of ever better quality of service and responsiveness, and the wish to help patients suffering from eye conditions”* declares Pierre-Paul Elena, CEO of Iris Pharma.

In 2011, Iris Pharma plans to create new subsidiaries in Spain, followed by then in Italy and Germany. Significant investments in equipment are also on the 2011 agenda notably with the purchase of an OCT (Optical Coherence Tomograph) – a high performance imagery technique – in order to be equipped with the latest generation apparatus and stay ahead of the competition.

About Iris Pharma:

Iris Pharma is an independent French CRO that specializes in preclinical and clinical research in the field of ophthalmology. Founded in 1989 by Dr Pierre-Paul Elena, Iris Pharma offers its services and expertise in the development of ophthalmic drugs and ocular medical devices to the pharmaceutical industry, biotechnology companies, and research institutes around the world. The company has five main areas of activity: strategic consulting, preclinical studies and services, clinical trials (Phase I to IV and medico-marketing surveys), bioanalytical testing as well as non-GMP preclinical formulation.

Recognized for the rigor and quality of its research, Iris Pharma has been chosen by the European Vision Institute (EVI.CT.SE) as an independent expert in Good Clinical Practice (GCP) for ophthalmic research. Since 1995, Iris Pharma has been recognized as a laboratory that complies with Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).

About the High performance Prize:

Created in 2001 and sponsored by the first daily French financial newspaper Les Echos and its partners, the High Performance Prize recognizes and rewards companies that have shown exceptional growth and outstanding commercial performance.

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