

November 2, 2005 – News Release

Affectis Pharmaceuticals AG Announces Target Validation Collaboration with Organon

Munich, Germany -- Affectis Pharmaceuticals AG and Organon, the human healthcare business unit of Akzo Nobel, have entered into a collaboration by which Affectis will apply its pioneering target validation technology and its exclusive preclinical models for the validation of Organon's gene targets involved in depression and anxiety.

Today, one of the major challenges in developing optimised drugs against affective disorders is the limited availability of suitable preclinical models and sufficient expertise in selecting promising targets and leads as well as their preclinical development. Affectis' team has more than 10 years experience in developing, performing and interpreting behavioural assays and preclinical models of diseases such as depression and anxiety.

"We are very glad to bring our unique expertise into the partnership with Organon, a global leader in the creation of innovative prescription medicines for mental health," Dr Herbert Stadler, Chief Executive Officer of Affectis Pharmaceuticals AG, comments. "Since the foundation of Affectis in July 2002 we have attracted several internationally renowned partners and continuously strengthened our position as a leading research and development organisation in the field of affective disorders."

"We are delighted to work with Affectis in the further validation of some exciting new targets with potential for the development of novel treatments for CNS diseases." Dr Chris Hill, Organon's Vice-President Research in Scotland, comments.

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Notes to Editors

About Affectis Pharmaceuticals AG

Affectis is a biopharmaceutical company implementing novel concepts for the treatment of mental disorders, especially depression and schizophrenia. The Company has unique capabilities to discover and develop drugs based on pioneering findings in the field of mental disorders. These drugs address the increasing need for more comprehensive and faster-acting antidepressants with fewer side effects. The most advanced programme is planned to enter preclinical trials in early 2006. Affectis started operations in November 2003 as a spin-off from the renowned Max-Planck-Institute of Psychiatry, a world leader in the field of psychiatric research. A strong team of executives and scientists with long-term industry experience contribute to Affectis' progress. The Company raised its second round of venture financing in March 2005, led by EMBL Ventures. Affectis is based in Munich, Germany.

www.affectis.com

About Organon

Organon – with shared head offices in Roseland, NJ, USA and Oss, The Netherlands – creates, manufactures and markets prescription medicines that improve the health and quality of human life. Through a combination of independent growth and business partnerships, Organon strives to remain or become one of the leading pharmaceutical companies in each of its core therapeutic fields: reproductive medicine, psychiatry and anaesthesia.

Organon products are sold in over 100 countries, of which more than 60 have an Organon subsidiary. Organon is the human health care business unit of Akzo Nobel.