

## **Press Statement**

### **Swiss Caps and Dragenopharm to merge operations**

German contract manufacturer DRAGENOPHARM Apotheker Püschl GmbH and SWISS CAPS AG, a Swiss contract manufacturer for the health, supplements and pharmaceutical industries, are to merge operations under the new name AENOVA. Both units will keep their status as independent companies and will trade under their own brand name.

AENOVA Group will design, develop and manufacture in-house, high quality solid-dosage forms for the pharmaceutical, OTC and vitamins, minerals and supplements markets, offering a comprehensive and competitive product range. The new group will have combined revenues of € 215 million.

The companies said in a joint statement: “We have created the number one, by revenue and range of activities, European contract pharmaceutical company in solid and soft capsule dosage forms. Combining our two businesses not only provides us with a superior platform from which to address a high-growth and internationalising market but will also enhance our production capabilities and know-how.”

European private equity firm Bridgepoint, which became the majority shareholder, acquired both Swiss Caps and Dragenopharm in September 2005 and March 2007 respectively, is fully supportive of the development. Uwe Kolb, Managing Partner of Bridgepoint in Frankfurt said: “The merger rationale is strong and will be important as the group addresses an increasingly competitive marketplace with a wider offer, especially to the growing market for generics and soft capsule pharmaceutical technology”.

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