



P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASCENSION ORTHOPEDICS EXTENDS EXCLUSIVE U.S. AGREEMENT WITH POLYGANICS TO WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION.

AUSTIN, TX — December 8, 2005: Ascension Orthopedics, Inc. announced today that it has signed an addendum to the US agreement with Polyganics of Groningen, The Netherlands for the worldwide distribution of Neurolac®, Polyganics resorbable nerve guide. The agreement includes all sizes of the nerve guide as well as line extensions and applies to upper and lower extremity applications.

“Polyganics novel material technology and their outstanding product line have proven their safety and efficacy in the U.S. market. Since Ascension’s sales and distribution network is not limited to the U.S. market, we’ve successfully extended our initial agreement with Polyganics into a worldwide agreement. Having the Neurolac® product capitalizes on a large opportunity in this growing market.” said Robert Martin, President of Ascension Orthopedics.

The Neurolac® nerve guide is used to aid in the healing of severed nerves due to traumatic injury. The nerve guide acts as a conduit to provide a pathway for regenerating axons. Neurolac® is made from a polylactide-co-caprolactone material that is resorbable. A unique feature of the material is that it is clear, thus providing the surgeon with greater visibility when performing this delicate surgery.

“Ascension’s worldwide relationships with hand surgeons provides us with an effective channel into the worldwide market. Furthermore, adding the Neurolac® product line to the Ascension portfolio creates a lot of synergism and a broader exposure of our product in the world market. Where possible, we will integrate both companies’ distributor networks,” said Jan Nieuwenhuis, CEO of Polyganics.

Polyganics anticipates that the worldwide market for nerve guides to be \$50 million annually. Ascension intends to launch the products in the fourth quarter of this year.

Ascension Orthopedics is dedicated to the research, development, manufacture and distribution of revolutionary orthopedic devices for the hand, upper extremity, and foot. The company founders are pioneers in the material science to combat the debilitating effects of arthritis. For further information, please visit Ascension’s website at <http://www.ascensionortho.com/>.

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