



For Immediate Release

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**APPROVAL OF GENZYME'S GEEL MANUFACTURING PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF
MYOZYME®**

**Genzyme ships first commercial batch of Myozyme® produced in its Geel
facility after more than five years of work and important investments**

GEEL, Belgium - Genzyme announced today that following the approval by the European Commission on February 25th of the production of Myozyme® (alglucosidase alfa) at the 4000 liter (l) bioreactor scale at its biomanufacturing site in Geel, Belgium, the first commercial batch of the treatment has been shipped.

Myozyme is the only approved treatment for Pompe disease, a rare, progressively debilitating and often fatal inherited disorder.

"This approval is important because it ensures that we can supply Myozyme to all patients in Europe who need treatment," said Hilde Stoop, Managing Director for Genzyme Belgium nv. "We are grateful to all of the European and Belgian authorities for their swift action on our application."

The therapy had been facing a potential supply constraint due to a fast rising worldwide demand since the approval of Myozyme in 2006. During January and February there was widespread adult patient compliance with the request from the EMEA to adjust infusion schedules to preserve product supply for infants and children. "We are also thankful to the patients and physicians globally who helped us conserve product supply over the past two months," continued Hilde Stoop. With this approval, the availability of product supply will now enable adult patients in Europe and the rest of the world to resume regular infusion schedules, and will allow new patients to initiate therapy.

"We are very proud of the concerted efforts of our employees at the Geel facility and from across Genzyme who have contributed in such a substantial way to making this approval possible," said Sandra Poole, Vice President and General Manager of the

Geel manufacturing facility. "It has taken tremendous will and effort from every individual involved, to allow for such a speedy pathway to commercial production."

Genzyme's state of the art biotechnology manufacturing facility in Geel opened officially in September 2005 and is among the largest healthcare biotechnological production sites in Europe. The facility represents an investment of over €300 million.

The production of biotechnological medicines requires, in addition to the challenges linked to research and development, the instauration of specialized production facilities with complex validation processes. This explains the size of the investments and the amount of time required between the construction of the plant and the recent approval by the Belgian and European authorities.

"This approval is very good news for biopharmaceutical production in our country, especially in these difficult economic times," said Sandra Poole.

The Geel facility, which employs 340 people, was recognized as one of Belgium's top ten "Best Places to Work" in 2008.

About Myozyme:

Myozyme is the only approved treatment for Pompe disease, a progressively debilitating disease that manifests as a broad spectrum of clinical symptoms. All patients typically experience progressive muscle weakness and breathing difficulty, but the rate of disease progression can vary widely depending on the age of the onset and the extend of organ involvement. When symptoms appear within a few months of birth, babies frequently display a markedly enlarged heart and die within the first year of life. When symptoms appear during childhood, adolescence or adulthood, patients may experience steadily progressive debilitation and premature mortality due to respiratory failure. They often require mechanical ventilation to assist with breathing and wheelchairs to assist with mobility.

About Genzyme:

One of the world's leading biotechnology companies. Genzyme is dedicated to making a major positive impact on the lives of people with serious diseases. Since 1981, the company has grown from a small start-up to a diversified enterprise with more than 11.000 employees in locations spanning the globe and 2008 revenues of \$4,6 billion.

With many established products and services helping patients in approximately 100 countries, Genzyme is a leader in the effort to develop and apply the most advanced technologies in the life sciences. The company's products and services are focused on rare inherited disorders, kidney diseases, orthopaedics, cancer, transplant and immune disease and diagnostic testing. Genzyme's commitment to innovation continues today with a substantial development program focused on these fields, as well as cardiovascular disease, neurodegenerative diseases, and other areas of unmet medical need.

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