



For Immediate Release

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Genzyme Further Expands Biomanufacturing Plant in Belgium

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Additional investment of €46 million & increasing workforce with extra
80 employees**

Geel, Belgium – Biotechnology company Genzyme announced today it will further expand its high-tech cell culture production facility in Geel, Belgium, with an additional bioreactor of 4000 liter. The investment for this amounts to €46 million euro, and eighty extra jobs will be created at the Geel site. This announcement was made at the Geel site in the presence of the Flemish Minister-President Kris Peeters.

“Genzyme 's activities fit perfectly in the objectives of "Flanders in Action",” said Minister-President Peeters. “Thanks to the investments in spearhead sectors such as medicine and biotechnology, Flanders intends to become one of the top five regions of Europe by 2020. Genzyme in Geel has already put Flanders on the map!

Those like Genzyme engaged in research and development of orphan drugs and particularly of ultra orphan drugs are taking on an important social responsibility and deserve special attention from the government.”

Genzyme's state-of-the-art biotechnology production facility for therapeutic proteins in Geel is among the largest biomanufacturing plants in Europe. The plant is designed as a multi-product facility for the production of recombinant therapeutic proteins by large scale mammalian cell cultures. At present, the facility contains two 10,000 liter bioreactors for the production of therapeutic monoclonal antibodies, used for instance in cancer therapy. The additional bioreactor of 4000L, together with the two existing 4000L bioreactors, will be used for the production of therapeutic proteins to treat Lysosomal Storage Disorders, a group of very rare diseases each with a prevalence of 1 in 50 000 people. Completion of the installation of the new bioreactor is expected by mid-2011.

“This expansion will substantially strengthen our global infrastructure and is fundamentally important to our future growth,” said Sandra Poole, Vice President and General Manager of the Geel biomanufacturing plant. “Our investment in the Belgian site is a reflection of our commitment to

Europe and is enabling us to bring our innovative therapies to a growing number of patients around the world.”

The extra bioreactor represents a further investment of €46 million bringing the overall investment of Genzyme in the Belgian production facility in Geel to above €350 million.

This expansion is part of a long-term strategy to allow Genzyme to provide a sustained supply to the growing demand for its therapeutic products throughout the world.

This new expansion will increase the workforce at the facility in Geel with 80 employees to more than 430. “The high skill level, flexibility and dedication of our the existing workforce, as well as the access to a highly educated local labour market has greatly enhanced our ability to implement our manufacturing plans at the site,” said Sandra Poole.

About Rare Diseases and Orphan Medicinal Products

Thousands of diseases and conditions affect so few people that without special support it would be unlikely that any company could afford to develop a treatment or cure for them. Each “orphan” disease or condition may affect only a few thousand patients, but there are some 8,000 rare diseases, most of them lacking effective medical treatments. Although individually rare, collectively they affect some 20 to 30 million Europeans and their families. Between 70 to 80 per cent of these rare diseases have a genetic origin, so biotechnology is an important tool for developing treatments for them.

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 disease, orthopaedics, cancer, transplant, 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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