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

Precimed, SA, designer, developer and manufacturer of precision surgical products announces new offices in Guangzhou, China.

P R E C I M E D A S I A

Along with operations in Switzerland, the U.S., Japan and the U.K., Precimed's Guangzhou office is now operational. This local office will provide the additional help needed to support new and existing sales as well as logistical follow through on projects for Asian customers.

Products for Precimed worldwide include **instruments for minimally-invasive surgical technique, hip, knee, trauma, spine**. In addition, exciting new products include **nitinol reamers, ratchet and torque-limiting handles, and injection molded products**. Precimed products are covered by several worldwide patents and/or patents pending.

About Precimed

PRECIMED is a high-growth manufacturer and developer of surgical orthopedic products. Global operations are headquartered in Switzerland with facilities in the US, UK, Japan, and Asia. Precimed began as a precision cutting tool manufacturer and became an independent private entity in 1988. With over 20 years experience in the medical field current certifications include EN46001 and ISO9001; Precimed carries the CE mark for all standard products and are an FDA registered company. Manufacturing sites include state-of-the-art equipment, including full product surface finishing capabilities, automated product flow controls, state-of-the-art CAD/CAM interface, and extensive industry experience and applications expertise. A well-established research and development team relies on state-of-the-art technology to provide innovative and cutting edge design and development solutions to customers and the orthopedic industry. This includes a focus on the creation and development of intellectual property. With over 260 customers worldwide, sales and support include Europe, North and South America, Africa, Asia and India.

Global Orthopaedic Market

The global orthopaedic market today (focusing mainly on the reconstructive, trauma and spine sectors) can be characterized by two key words: growth and consolidation. Historically the industry has grown at a rate of 15-17% annually and is predicted to continue in the same vein. While the industry continues to grow, the number of orthopaedic companies is showing the opposite trend - consolidation. In 1998 ten companies controlled 70% of the global orthopaedic marketplace. By the end of 2003, three of those companies had disappeared as a result of mergers and acquisitions. What is true for the larger players in the industry is true for suppliers like Precimed. Emerging trends in the industry include new bearing surfaces like highly cross-linked polyethylene, metal-on-metal and ceramic-on-ceramic. MIS (minimally-invasive surgical techniques) and CAS (computer aided surgery) continue to dominate all three major sectors. Hip resurfacing has emerged globally with a new presence on the US market. The trauma market continues to be driven by locking plate technology with the debate continuing about when to use and when not to use. Currently 60% of plating procedures include the locking plate technology. The spine sector is looking toward alternatives to spinal fusion - the current gold standard, with spinal arthroplasty (artificial discs) being the main challenger. Key market drivers include demographics and an ever-aging global population, technology and innovation, costs, and consolidation. The fact remains that the global orthopaedic market continues to grow and shows few signs of slowing down.

Further information is available from:

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This press release and further documents are available in electronic form at www.precimed.com.

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