



For immediate release – November 25, 2008

## VÉTOQUINOL STRENGTHENS ITS POSITION IN EUROPE WITH THE ACQUISITION OF ASCOR CHIMICI IN ITALY

**Lure, 25 November 2008** – Vétoquinol announces the signing of a contract to acquire 100 percent of the shares of Ascor Chimici S.r.l, which will take effect on 1 December 2008.

This acquisition will enable Vétoquinol to significantly expand its position in the Italian market – the fifth largest in Europe – which it already serves through two distributors. Vétoquinol will now have a solid base from which to expand its market share in Italy.

Ascor Chimici, founded in 1969, had sales of 21.4 million euros in 2007 and employs 63 persons. The company, whose headquarters and manufacturing facility are located near Forli, manufactures and markets antibiotic medicines for cattle, swine, and poultry, as well as medicated premixes.

Ascor Chimici also distributes a line of anti-inflammatory and anti-parasitic pharmaceutical products for production animals and pets under the 'Vaas' brand.

The acquisition of Ascor Chimici, nearly 30% of whose sales are exported, permits Vétoquinol to offer a more complete range of products in the European, Middle-East, African, and Asian markets.

*"This acquisition of a major animal health company in Italy will permit us to develop our product lines in the Italian market, which represents an important sales potential for Vétoquinol, and to significantly strengthen our presence in Europe"* stated Etienne Frechin, President of Vétoquinol.

Upcoming events: 2008 Annual revenues (Thursday, 22 January 2009)

### **About Vétoquinol**

*Vétoquinol, which is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, is an independent veterinary pharmaceutical laboratory serving both the companion animal and livestock markets. This family-owned group specialized in animal health is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest laboratory in the world, and nearly 80% of Vétoquinol's revenues come from outside France.*

*Vétoquinol engages in the research and development, production and marketing of medical and dietary products. Vétoquinol has positioned itself in the curative sector, and has developed expertise in three major therapeutic fields: anti-infectives, pain management and anti-inflammatories, and cardiology and nephrology.*

*The Group currently distributes its products in one hundred countries throughout Europe, North America and Asia, with subsidiaries in 21 different countries and a network of 110 distributor partners. The Company has 1,350 employees worldwide.*

**More information:** [www.vetoquinol.com](http://www.vetoquinol.com).

**OUR BUSINESS: ANIMALS. OUR ADVANTAGE: PEOPLE.**

For further information, contact

#### **VETOQUINOL**

Finance Department  
Pierre KONAREFF  
Tel: +33 (0)3 84 62 59 88  
[relations.investisseurs@vetoquinol.com](mailto:relations.investisseurs@vetoquinol.com)

#### **KEIMA COMMUNICATION**

Investor Relations  
Emmanuel DOVERGNE  
Tel: +33 (0)1 56 43 44 63  
[emmanuel.dovergne@keima.fr](mailto:emmanuel.dovergne@keima.fr)

#### Media Relations

Alix HÉRIARD DUBREUIL  
Tel: +33 (0)1 56 43 44 62  
[alix.heriard@keima.fr](mailto:alix.heriard@keima.fr)