



William Ransom & Son plc
(“William Ransom” and the “Company”)

**Voluntary product recall and partial suspension of Manufacturer’s Licence for
Witham facility**

William Ransom & Son plc announces today that, following a recent routine inspection of its pharmaceutical contract manufacturing facility at Witham, Essex, by the MHRA (the Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency), it has been advised that a voluntary product recall should be effected. This voluntary recall covers only those products in current shelf life and made at the Witham facility using purified water, either for third parties or for the Company itself including the Radian, Valderma and Pavacol brands. The recall does not affect other consumer healthcare products manufactured or sold by the Company.

The MHRA’s routine inspection of the Witham site found some evidence of deficiencies in the Company’s control and investigation of microbial contamination of the purified water supply used in the manufacture of certain products. However the Company believes that its existing quality management system has ensured that all product sold is within its specification for release to the market. Moreover there have been no adverse events reported to the Company in the last 12 months arising from microbial contamination.

In its discussions with the MHRA, the Company has accepted that there were shortcomings in its documentation of the review and decision making process concerning microbial contamination. These have since been rectified. These shortcomings did not, in the Company’s view, compromise the safety of the general public and this position has been supported by filings made on its behalf to the MHRA by independent medical and microbial contamination experts.

Notwithstanding the above, the MHRA has initiated a voluntary product recall. This may affect all products made at the Witham facility with purified water which remain in date. The MHRA has also suspended the Company’s Manufacturer’s Licence for certain products manufactured at Witham, for a period of three months, pending resolution of their concerns.

Commenting on the situation, Tim Dye, Chief Executive of William Ransom, said;

“We have been making products for ourselves and our customers to the highest standards for many years with no reported incidences of quality issues. We are committed to working with the MHRA to resolve the current situation as quickly as possible.”

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Notes to Editors

About William Ransom & Son plc

Founded in 1846 and based in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, Ransom is the UK's oldest independent pharmaceutical company and one of the UK's leading natural healthcare companies. Ransom is quoted on AIM (ticker symbol: RNSM). The company is the market-leading supplier of glucosamine supplements following its acquisition of Health Perception in April 2004. The product range was further expanded in June 2005 when Ransom acquired Optima Healthcare to become the UK's, and one of Europe's, leading suppliers of retailed aloe vera products.

For more information please see www.williamransom.com