



# APTAR PHARMA CELEBRATES ASTHMA DAY WITH A TWISTER™ OF INNOVATION

Louveciennes, France - April  $30^{th}$ , 2012 - World leader in the development and manufacturing of nasal and pulmonary drug delivery devices including inhalers for asthma, Aptar Pharma launches Twister<sup>TM</sup>, a new versatile affordable capsule-based Dry Powder Inhaler (DPI) specifically targeting fast growing markets.

### You Can Control Your Asthma

It is estimated by the World Health Organization *(WHO)* that approximately 235 million people suffer from asthma in the world. In keeping with the theme of this year's Asthma Day "You can control your Asthma", Aptar Pharma is launching Twister™, a new versatile affordable capsule-based DPI, with the aim of bringing cost effective drug delivery devices to pharmaceutical companies, helping them market affordable healthcare treatment to patients worldwide.



In the US and Europe, the majority of asthma drug sales are currently delivered via DPIs and pressurized Metered Dose Inhalers (pMDIs). In Asia and Latin America, asthma has been treated predominantly with pMDIs which are considered to be a more cost-effective device proposition than DPIs. Healthcare reforms in these regions and other growing markets are making asthma diagnosis and medication more available to patients. Aptar Pharma is anticipating that the DPI growth trend will spread. Twister™ is by nature simple to use, and will allow a wider range of asthma sufferers to not only gain better access to medication but also become more compliant with the treatment they receive due to its feedback design.

## **Sense and Simplicity**

Twister™ has been uniquely designed to specifically address unmet needs in fast growing markets. Capsule filling technologies are well established, cost-effective and robust in all regions of the world, allowing for regional manufacturing. During the development process, Aptar Pharma's dedicated inhalation drug formulation research team tested and collected data on various drug formulations, validating Twister™ as an off-the-shelf device, suitable for a variety of different drug compounds and formulations.

Twister™ is a transparent patient-friendly device. Only 3 simple steps are needed to operate it – Insert, Twist and Inhale – and the patient will be guided by various audible and visual feedbacks confirming that the full dose has been properly delivered.





## **Continued Global Expansion**

Twister™ was developed by a global Aptar Pharma product development team. The project was initiated in France and further developed in China. It is another step forward in the global manufacturing expansion of Aptar Pharma, with molding and assembly taking place in a class ISO 7 cleanroom at our state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Suzhou (near Shanghai), China. Among the pioneers of local manufacturing in China, Aptar Pharma Suzhou was opened in 1996 and currently produces pMDI metering valves and spray pumps for the Asian market. Aptar Pharma was also the first company licensed to manufacture spray and aerosol drug delivery devices in China. Now with Twister™, Aptar Pharma Suzhou will further Aptar Pharma's commitment to provide world class quality products, promoting better global healthcare access worldwide.

"Twister™ complements Aptar Pharma's fully comprehensive range of drug delivery solutions, available worldwide for the pharmaceutical industry's treatment of Asthma and COPD. Prohaler® opened the door and taught us a lot about the world of DPIs. With the launch of Twister™, Aptar Pharma is set to fulfill regional needs for a simpler and well suited solution to deliver powder to the lungs.", states Adam M. Shain, Associate Director Business Development, Aptar Pharma Prescription Division.

#### **About Aptar Pharma**

Aptar Pharma is part of the Aptargroup family of companies, along with Aptar Beauty + Home and Aptar Food + Beverage. We create innovative drug delivery systems that meet the evolving needs of biotechnology, healthcare and pharmaceutical companies around the world. We provide our customers with a wide range of delivery technologies and analytical services backed by years of proven expertise.

For more information, visit www.aptar.com/pharma

Aptargroup (NYSE: ATR) is headquartered in the US and has manufacturing sites in North America, Europe, Asia and South America.

For more information, visit www.aptar.com

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