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SONIC HEALTHCARE TO ACQUIRE THE GLP MEDICAL GROUP IN HAMBURG, GERMANY

Sonic Healthcare Limited ("Sonic", SHL.AX) is pleased to announce that it has signed an agreement to acquire 100% of the GLP Medical Group ("GLP Medical") based in Hamburg, Germany.

Also known as "Labor Dr von Froreich & Kollegen", the company is based in the city of Hamburg and is one of the most reputable, regional full-service laboratories in Germany. Founded more than 30 years ago by Dr André von Froreich, GLP Medical is well regarded for the high-quality service it offers its customers, as well as its outstanding technical innovation. Dr von Froreich will continue to lead the group together with his senior executive group comprising Marie-Christine von Schrenck, Dr Johannes Ungeheuer and a dedicated team of doctors and other managers. GLP Medical employs approximately 250 staff, as well as casual and part-time courier drivers, and operates from a single, highly automated, state-of-the-art laboratory facility which has significant capacity reserves. Expected EBITDA for the 2008/9 financial year amounts to approximately EUR 3.5M.

The purchase price for GLP Medical is based on a prospective EBITDA multiple of approximately 8.6 times, excluding synergies. Significant overlap exists between GLP Medical and the operations of Sonic's national laboratories, Bioscientia Healthcare and the Schottdorf group, both of which operate full-service laboratories in Hamburg. The acquisition will be immediately earnings per share accretive and will be funded in Euros from Sonic's existing syndicated senior debt facility. Settlement is conditional upon German anti-trust approval as well as customary legal restructuring which are expected to be completed by August/September 2008.

As part of the transaction, Sonic will make two minority investments in GLP Systems GmbH and GLP Networks AG, which develop solutions for laboratory automation and medical software communication platforms respectively. The majority ownership in these entities will continue to be held by Dr von Froreich and his family.

Sonic Healthcare's CEO and Managing Director Dr Colin Goldschmidt said: "The partnership with GLP Medical Group represents an exciting development for Sonic in Europe. The service delivery and quality standards of the GLP team of staff are outstanding and the laboratory itself makes use of a number of unique technical innovations that may provide benefits to Sonic's laboratory operations world-wide. The investments in GLP Systems and GLP Networks will foster Sonic's competitive advantage through access to cutting edge technology and know-how developed in-house at GLP Medical. With significant potential for synergy in an important metropolitan region of Germany, this acquisition further enhances our expanding laboratory platform in Germany and in Europe. We are proud to partner with Dr von Froreich and his team and I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome all staff of GLP Medical Group to Sonic Healthcare."

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