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SONIC HEALTHCARE MAKES FURTHER U.S. ACQUISITIONS

Sonic Healthcare Limited ("Sonic") (SHL.AX) is pleased to announce that it has acquired 100% of American Clinical Services, Inc. ("ACS"). Based in New Jersey, ACS is led by its founder James Hutchinson (President). The business has experienced strong revenue growth in the New York metropolitan area, with current annual revenue of over US\$13 Million.

ACS will become part of Sonic's existing New York-based business, Sunrise Medical Laboratories. James Hutchinson and his team will remain in senior management roles in the combined Sunrise/ACS business.

The ACS transaction follows on from the recently completed acquisition of Woodbury Clinical Laboratory ("WCL), based in Lebanon, Tennessee (near Nashville). WCL was founded in 1988 and has annual revenue of over US\$4 Million. WCL further strengthens Sonic existing presence in the Tennessee and surrounding markets.

The total of the (debt & cash free) purchase prices for the two businesses is ~US\$33 Million. Both acquisitions have been structured so as to provide tax deductions for goodwill amortisation over 15 years, with a total net present value to Sonic of ~US\$5 Million. The acquisitions have been debt funded in US dollars and will be immediately earnings per share accretive.

Sonic Healthcare's CEO and Managing Director, Dr Colin Goldschmidt said: "American Clinical Services represents a highly synergistic acquisition for Sonic, as ACS adds further critical mass to Sonic in the high growth, important New York market. Woodbury Clinical Laboratory fits very well into Sonic's growing Tennessee business and provides new growth potential in the sizeable Nashville market. I wish to warmly welcome all ACS and WCL staff to the Sonic Healthcare group."

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