



bioMérieux Opens a Subsidiary in the Middle East, Continuing its International Growth

Marcy l'Etoile, France, October 23, 2008 – bioMérieux, a world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics, announces the opening of a subsidiary in the United Arab Emirates. A hub for its operations in the Middle East, bioMérieux's 39th subsidiary will be based in Dubai.

Active in the region for more than 25 years, bioMérieux has established a leading position in the United Arab Emirates diagnostics market through its exclusive distributor, Al Hayat Pharmaceuticals, with whom it will continue to work closely.

"This new subsidiary will be the hub for our Middle East commercial team. With 20,000 healthcare professionals in Dubai HealthCare City and international centers of excellence such as Harvard Medical School and Mayo Clinic, there are exciting opportunities in the UAE health economy," said Stéphane Bancel, Chief Executive Officer of bioMérieux. *"bioMérieux's solid business model allows us to continue our international expansion, a key factor for future growth and sales diversification."*

Dubai HealthCare City, where the bioMérieux subsidiary is located, has the ambition of becoming the leading center in the region, filling a gap in healthcare services in the zone between Europe and Southeast Asia.

bioMérieux will bring, in particular, its expertise as a world leader in diagnostics for healthcare associated infections (HAI) to local hospitals and universities to build HAI management programs.

The Dubai subsidiary will also provide field support to bioMérieux's customers and distributors in the region, to ensure they receive the highest quality service. Emphasis will be placed on training and a bioMérieux training center is planned, which will provide training on optimal product use and high level scientific conferences on key pathologies.

About bioMérieux

Advancing Diagnostics to Improve Public Health

A world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics for 45 years, bioMérieux is present in more than 150 countries through 39 subsidiaries and a large network of distributors. In 2007, revenues reached €1.063 billion with 84% of sales outside of France.

bioMérieux provides diagnostic solutions (reagents, instruments, software) which determine the source of disease and contamination to improve patient health and ensure consumer safety. Its products are used for diagnosing infectious diseases and providing high medical value results for cardiovascular emergencies and cancer screening and monitoring. They are also used for detecting microorganisms in agri-food, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products. bioMérieux is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris market (Code: BIM – Code ISIN: FR0010096479). Other information can be found at <http://www.biomerieux.com/>.

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