### **Press release**



# VIVALIS AND MERIAL EXTEND THEIR COLLABORATION BY SIGNING A NEW EB66<sup>®</sup> CELL LINE RESEARCH LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR 10 NEW VACCINES PRODUCTION.

**Nantes (France) & Duluth, GA (USA) – June 16<sup>th</sup> , 2009**– VIVALIS (NYSE Euronext: VLS) and MERIAL (a joint venture between sanofi aventis and Merck), today announced the signing of a new research license to use the EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line, a VIVALIS proprietary technology, for the production of veterinary vaccines. Through this collaboration, MERIAL intends to test the EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line for the production of 10 different pathogens.

"VIVALIS is pleased to enter in this new agreement with MERIAL, a worldwide leader in animal health vaccines. This agreement highlights the broad potential of our EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line as a standard platform for the production of vaccines. This new agreement is a new evidence of MERIAL confidence and investment in VIVALIS technology. "said Franck Grimaud, VIVALIS CEO.

Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

## About the EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line.

EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line, derived from duck embryonic stem cells, presents unique industrial and regulatory characteristics such as long-term genetic stability, immortality and cell growth to high cell densities in suspension in a serum-free medium.

The BMF (Biologics Master File) for the registration of the EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line with the FDA (U.S. Food and Drug Administration) was filed June 27, 2008.

EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line is currently used or tested by 75% of the major players in vaccines. With 26 licenses already signed, the EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line is becoming a new standard cell substrate for biologics production.

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#### Next financial press release:

### 22 July, after NYSE Euronext market closing: 2009 first-half sales

### About Vivalis (www.vivalis.com)

VIVALIS (NYSE- Euronext: VLS) is a biopharmaceutical company that provides innovative cell-based solutions to the pharmaceutical industry for the manufacture of vaccines and proteins, and develops drugs for the prevention and treatment of viral diseases. VIVALIS' expertise and intellectual property are exploited in three main areas:

1. The development and manufacturing of vaccines. VIVALIS offers research and commercial licenses for its EB66<sup>®</sup> cell line, derived from duck stem cells, to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for the production of vaccines. Vivalis receives up front, milestones, and royalties on its licensees' net sales.

2. The development of production systems for recombinant proteins and monoclonal antibodies. VIVALIS licenses its EB66® cell line for the production of recombinant proteins to biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. Vivalis receives up front, milestones, and royalties on its licensees' net sales.

3. The construction of a portfolio of proprietary products in the area of vaccines and anti-viral molecules (hepatitis C).

Based in Nantes (France), VIVALIS was founded in 1999 by the Grimaud group (1,450 employees), the second largest group worldwide in animal genetic selection. VIVALIS has established more than 30 partnerships and licenses with world leaders in this sector, including Sanofi Pasteur, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis Vaccines, Merck, CSL Kaketsuken, Merial, Intervet, SAFC Biosciences. VIVALIS is a member of the French ATLANTIC BIOTHERAPIES bio-cluster.

Learn more about Vivalis at www.vivalis.com

VIVALIS Listed on Euronext Paris – Compartment C of NYSE Euronext Reuters: VLS.PA – Bloomberg: VLS FP Included in NYSE Euronext's Next Biotech index



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### About Merial (www.merial.com)

Merial is a world-leading, innovation-driven animal health company, providing a comprehensive range of products to enhance the health, well-being and performance of a wide range of animals. Merial employs more than 5700 people and operates in more than 150 countries worldwide. Its 2008 sales were over \$2.6 billion. Merial Limited is a joint venture between Merck & Co., Inc. and sanofi-aventis. For more information, please see www.merial.com.