

Sanofi-aventis doubles syringe production capacity and diversifies vaccine production at the Le Trait Manufacturing Plant

- The Group reinforces its investment in its French industrial capacity -

Paris, France – December 11, 2009 – Sanofi-aventis (EURONEXT: SAN and NYSE: SNY) today launched its new production units at the Le Trait site in a ceremony attended by Jean-Marie Aline, Mayor of Le Trait, Christophe Bouillon, Member of the French National Assembly for Seine-Maritime, Christopher A. Viehbacher, Chief Executive Officer of sanofi-aventis, and Philippe Luscan, Senior Vice-President for Industrial Affairs, sanofi-aventis.

The Le Trait manufacturing site specializes in producing high-tech sterile injectable products, primarily for export. Over the past 40 years, the site has invested in the most innovative technologies in order to meet patients' needs and requirements of various international markets, in particular the United States and Japan. The investment in these new production units, one of the largest made on this site since its creation, represents 87 million euros over the past three years.

"Le Trait is one of many examples of sanofi-aventis' desire to invest in France in order to be able to meet worldwide public health challenges," said sanofi-aventis Chief Executive Officer Christopher A. Viehbacher. *"A cutting-edge technological platform, the Le Trait site produces one million syringes a day and exports close to 90% of its production, 25% of which for the North American market."*

The state-of-the-art production lines will include new filling, inspection and packaging systems (part of the @live project – Lovenox Injectable Vaccines Extension) enabling the manufacturing plant to double its production of prefilled syringes to meet growing market demand for Lovenox® (13% growth worldwide).

The investment also means that the site will further diversify its vaccine production, in partnership with Sanofi Pasteur. The site already manufactures the seasonal flu vaccine Vaxigrip®, and from December 2009, will also handle packaging of an infant meningitis vaccine for the Japanese market, and production of the new intradermal flu vaccine Intanza® starting in early 2010 .

Additionally, the new filling lines will further optimise the quality of the medicines manufactured on the site, through electron beam (or e-beam) sterilisation technology which ensures extremely fast decontamination of components.

About Le Trait Manufacturing Plant

The high volumes produced on the Le Trait site and constant pursuit of optimal quality and safety have enabled the site to acquire in-depth expertise in the injectables field and to excel in managing highly demanding and innovative processes. One of many innovative approaches is the eris[®] safety system used on Lovenox[®] syringes, which protects both health workers and patients against risks of contamination by accidental needle-stick injuries associated with inadequate post-injection handling and disposal of needles. Isolation technology, providing the product protection from operator contamination, is a further example of innovation on this trailblazing Le Trait site. This use of industrial technology borrowed from the nuclear sector underlines the very transverse vision of the Le Trait site in terms of innovation and an opening up to other sectors. This approach adapted to other business sectors is also evident in the setting up an operator-free handling process based on Renault's automated technology.

About sanofi-aventis

Sanofi-aventis, a leading global pharmaceutical company, discovers, develops and distributes therapeutic solutions to improve the lives of everyone. Sanofi-aventis is listed in Paris (EURONEXT: SAN) and in New York (NYSE: SNY). For more information, visit: www.sanofi-aventis.com

Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. These statements include product development, product potential projections and estimates and their underlying assumptions, statements regarding plans, objectives, intentions and expectations with respect to future events, operations, products and services, and statements regarding future performance. Forward-looking statements are generally identified by the words "expects," "anticipates," "believes," "intends," "estimates," "plans" and similar expressions. Although sanofi-aventis' management believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, investors are cautioned that forward-looking information and statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond the control of sanofi-aventis, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. These risks and uncertainties include among other things, the uncertainties inherent in research and development, future clinical data and analysis, including post marketing, decisions by regulatory authorities, such as the FDA or the EMEA, regarding whether and when to approve any drug, device or biological application that may be filed for any such product candidates as well as their decisions regarding labelling and other matters that could affect the availability or commercial potential of such products candidates, the absence of guarantee that the products candidates if approved will be commercially successful, the future approval and commercial success of therapeutic alternatives as well as those discussed or identified in the public filings with the SEC and the AMF made by sanofi-aventis, including those listed under "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in sanofi-aventis' annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2008. Other than as required by applicable law, sanofi-aventis does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information or statements.