



## **SpePharm, a new specialty pharma company, launched in Amsterdam**

**Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 14 September 2006** - SpePharm Holding, BV, a specialty pharmaceutical company dedicated to the sales and marketing of innovative hospital and specialists products throughout Europe, was officially launched today. The company has been founded by Jean-François Labbé, TVM Capital, a leading German life science investment firm, and Signet Healthcare Partners, part of the Sanders Morris Harris Group, Inc., a US-based financial investment company. To fund the obtaining of rights to the first products and their launch throughout Europe, a total of €17 million has been committed by SpePharm shareholders and the Company intends to raise more funds in the near future to acquire rights to further products.

SpePharm's business is based upon the acquisition of, or obtaining the rights to, quality and unique products for hospitals and specialists throughout Europe, within a limited number of therapeutic fields. Initial focus is on oncology, haematology and endocrinology, with possible extensions into critical and supportive care. Other segments where medical and commercial synergies can be developed, such as niche indications, orphan drugs and low-volume products of high medical value and limited competition, will also be considered.

Commenting on the launch, the new CEO of SpePharm, Jean-François Labbé said: "We aim to be the preferred partner for pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies seeking to maximize product and commercial opportunities in Europe. It is our intention to rapidly create and develop a pan-European specialty pharmaceutical company active in the hospital and specialist segments."

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### **About SpePharm Holding, B.V.**

SpePharm Holding, B.V. is a Dutch company with its registered office in Amsterdam. SpePharm is an emerging pan-European specialty pharmaceutical company focused on the hospital and specialty markets, particularly in oncology, haematology, critical and supportive care and endocrinology. SpePharm was founded by Jean-François Labbé together with leading life science investment firms TVM Capital and Signet Healthcare Partners (part of the Sanders Morris Harris Group, Inc). Jean-François Labbé is a former top executive at Hoechst Marion Roussel and Parke Davis with over 30 years of experience in international pharmaceutical management.

For more information about SpePharm, please visit the Web site at [www.spepharm.com](http://www.spepharm.com)

**About TVM Capital**

TVM Capital was founded in 1983, and was one of the first venture capital firms formed in Germany. It has been an active participant in the U.S. market since 1986. To date TVM Capital has raised over EUR 1.3 billion in the generation of six funds and established itself as a leading technology investment group in both Europe and the United States.

**About Signet Healthcare Partners**

Signet Healthcare Partners, part of the Sanders Morris Harris Group Inc, was founded in 1998 with the establishment of the Corporate Opportunities Funds. Since 1998, three funds have been raised and investments in approximately 25 companies completed. The team is comprised of five professionals with principal offices in New York City.