



Vetter Pharma International GmbH · POB 23 80 · 88193 Ravensburg · Germany

## **Press release**

### **Governor of Illinois opens the 2010 BIO International Convention; Vetter's participation at Illinois Pavilion represents growth of Midwest biotech**

**Ravensburg, May 5, 2010 – Illinois Governor Pat Quinn cut the ribbon at the 2010 BIO International Convention yesterday. Vetter, a leading provider of aseptic pre-filled drug-delivery systems, was present as the governor toured the Illinois Pavilion. The company represents the burgeoning of the Midwest as the new hotspot for biotechnology.**

This is the second time in four years that the world's premier biotechnology organization is holding its annual convention in Chicago, underscoring the region's rising influence in the biotech industry. Germany-based Vetter chose Chicago when it decided to expand its Vetter Development Service. The company's state-of-the-art facility, located in Skokie's Illinois Science + Technology Park, will support preclinical through phase II projects, and will be operational at the beginning of the fourth quarter 2010.

Said Peter Soelkner, Vetter managing director, "The decision to base our North American operations in Chicago was a critical element of our strategic growth plan for Vetter. The Midwest location fit like a glove. Centrally located within the United States, it enables us to travel easily to all of our North American customers, and they to us. It is also within a thriving center of biotechnology industry and top-flight academic institutions. That gives us access to colleagues, cutting-edge science and a highly skilled employee pool."

"Illinois biotechnology is helping to drive advances in medicine and agriculture," said Governor Quinn. "We're not surprised that the rest of the world is discovering what we have to offer." Biotechnology's share of total venture investment in Illinois in 2009 reached 21 percent.

#### **Vetter presenting on BIO exhibit floor**

Yesterday, on May 4, as part of BIO's Contract Services Summit, Dr. Claudia Roth, site manager of Vetter's new Chicago facility, presented "Design and Implementation of a Fast and Flexible Clinical-Trial-Material Manufacturing Site in the U.S.". She discussed approaches to clinical manufacturing developed by Vetter, from the focus on disposable technology, to minimizing API losses via automated sample filling, to rapid implementation of manufacturing processes. On the



exhibit floor, Vetter's booth is #2351. Vetter is also an active participant at the Illinois Pavilion (#3302).



During his visit to the Illinois Pavilion, Governor Pat Quinn (fourth from left) greeted Vetter executives (from left to right) Gunther Strothe, Max Horn, Peter Soelkner, Udo J. Vetter (Chairman), Wolfgang Kerkhoff; and the Mayor of Skokie, George Van Dusen (second from right).

#### **About Vetter:**

Vetter is an independent international specialist in the aseptic filling of syringes, cartridges and vials. The company has extensive experience with a broad array of substances, including monoclonal antibodies, peptides, interferons and non-living vaccines. Based in Ravensburg, Germany, Vetter provides support for pharmaceutical and biotech clients from preclinical development through regulatory approval and global market supply. The firm works with 19 of the top 20 biopharmaceutical companies worldwide, and employs 2,200 staff across Europe and the United States. Vetter's new Chicago facility, an expansion of Vetter Development Service, will support early-stage products and will be operational at the beginning of Q4 2010. The innovator of the Vetter Lyo-Ject<sup>®</sup> dual-chamber syringe and V-LK<sup>®</sup> cartridge, the company holds nearly 140 patents and is a leader in the use of RABS technology in cleanrooms. Approved as a foreign manufacturer by the government of Japan, Vetter's global regulatory experience includes numerous customer product approvals by the FDA, EMA and other authorities. Over its more than 25-year history in aseptic filling, Vetter has won many awards for its facilities and operations, including the 2009 Axia award for customer relationship management.



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