



CONTACT: Trish Cetrone, 925-787-4283
tcetrone@chasepr.com
Chase Communications

SANTEN ANNOUNCES NEW VICE PRESIDENT R&D

NAPA, CA. (OCTOBER 23, 2008) -- Santen Inc., the U.S. subsidiary of global ophthalmic pharmaceutical company Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Osaka, Japan) announced Yusuf Ali, PhD., as the company's new Vice President of Research & Development.

"Dr. Ali is a highly respected scientist with a strong record in ophthalmic drug development", says Santen President and Chief Executive Officer Adrienne Graves, PhD. "He has a wealth of experience in basic research, drug discovery, ophthalmic formulations, and drug delivery."

Dr. Ali, who earlier this year was named Vice President of Pre-Clinical & Pharmaceutical Development, has been part of Santen's R&D team for the past five years. Previously, he spent 14 years at Alcon, ending his tenure there as a Director in R&D. He was the Vice President of New Product Development for almost six years at GOJO Industries Inc.

In his new role at Santen, Dr. Ali will provide leadership in accelerating development of new compounds in key ophthalmic areas such as glaucoma, dry eye and retina. He will facilitate the transition of new drug candidates from Santen's research facility in Nara, Japan to US markets. Additionally, Dr. Ali personally practices Santen's global philosophy of "protecting the joy of sight." He has participated in a number of missions for the Blind Welfare Society of India to help residents in remote villages such as Dahod, Gujarat, where he grew up.

Santen Inc. continues to aggressively expand its clinical and business development efforts to further support global expansion in the dry eye, retinal and glaucoma therapeutic segments.

"Santen continues to focus on the global development of its business and the U.S. market is an important element of Santen's integrated global product development and marketing strategy. Dr. Ali has extensive clinical and regulatory experience that will help Santen

accelerate the identification and development of novel products for Santen’s global pipeline,” says Schalon Newton, EDM, Santen’s Vice President of Strategic Marketing & Business Development. Currently, Santen Inc. has two innovative compounds in clinical development in the U.S. in the glaucoma and dry eye therapeutic categories.

Santen has four FDA-approved drugs currently marketed in the U.S. Since late 2003, Vistakon Pharmaceuticals, LLC has had sole U.S. distribution rights for these products: IQUIX[®] (levofloxacin ophthalmic solution) 1.5%, QUIXIN[®] (levofloxacin ophthalmic solution) 0.5%, BETIMOL[®] (timolol ophthalmic solution) 0.25%, 0.5% and ALAMAST[®] (pemirolast potassium ophthalmic solution) 0.1%. Santen continues to have responsibility for manufacturing, clinical and regulatory activities associated with all four of these products.

Santen Inc., based in Napa, California, is the U.S. subsidiary of Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., a billion-dollar global company headquartered in Osaka, Japan since 1890. Santen researches, develops and markets ophthalmic products for physicians worldwide. Among prescription ophthalmic pharmaceuticals, Santen holds the top share within the Japanese and Chinese markets and is one of the leading ophthalmic companies worldwide. Santen has subsidiaries in the U.S., Europe and Asia, including its wholly-owned Napa, California-based Santen Inc. Santen’s global product pipeline includes many more prescription pharmaceuticals in varying clinical trial phases. A detailed listing, as well as additional corporate information, is available online at www.santeninc.com.

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