

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

29 September 2004

MEDIA RELEASE**PHARMANIAGA BUYS 55% EQUITY INTEREST IN
PHARMACEUTICALS DISTRIBUTION AND
TRADING COMPANY IN INDONESIA**

Jakarta, Pharmaniaga Berhad (Pharmaniaga) through its wholly-owned subsidiary Esteem Interpoint Sdn Bhd (Esteem); today signed an agreement to purchase 55% equity interest in PT Millennium Pharmacon International TBK (MPI). The agreement was signed between Esteem and PT Tigamitra Multikarya (Tigamitra), the major shareholder of MPI for a total cash transaction of approximately RM12.2 million.

The acquisition of MPI will not have any effect on the issued and paid-up share capital and shareholdings of the substantial shareholders of Pharmaniaga as the financial support for this transaction will be fully funded from its internal sources.

MPI is a public listed company on both the Jakarta Stock Exchange and Surabaya Stock Exchange. MPI is a leading distributor of pharmaceuticals and related products for foreign as well as Indonesian principals in Indonesia. This compliments Pharmaniaga's core business of manufacturing, marketing and distribution of pharmaceutical and medical products.

Pharmaniaga foresees the fast recovering Indonesian economy an asset. The size of the pharmaceutical industry in Indonesia in 2003 is approximately IDR17.6 trillion and is forecast to grow at a rate ranging from 12% to 15% in 2004.

Profit contributions from MPI are expected to enhance the future earnings of the Pharmaniaga group of companies (Group) as the acquisition will allow the Group an opportunity to leverage on MPI's existing distribution network to expand into Indonesia.

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ABOUT PHARMANIAGA BERHAD

Pharmaniaga Berhad is Malaysia's leading pharmaceuticals group and a member of the UEM Group. The company is driven by its core businesses in generic pharmaceuticals R&D and manufacturing, warehousing and distribution of pharmaceutical and medical products, sales & marketing, as well as hospital equipping provision of turnkey contract services. Pharmaniaga has also created a niche in healthcare IT solutions which forms the backbone of its operations.

Issued for the Pharmaniaga Group by Corporate Communications Division, Pharmaniaga Berhad