

€13 million for Implanet Partners – Wellington makes first investment from its WP III Life Science Fund

Wellington Partners is participating as a co-lead investor in the €13-million round of financing for medical technology start-up Implanet Partners. The funding, which marks the first investment from the Wellington Partners Ventures III Life Science Fund, will enable Implanet to expand its newly formed business in the field of surgical implants.

Munich, May 25, 2007. Bordeaux, France-based Implanet Partners is strengthening its capital base with a €13-million initial round of venture funding from a Franco-German investment consortium led by Auriga Capital, Edmond de Rothschild Investment Partners and Wellington Partners. The newly formed company will be active in the development, production and marketing of surgical implants.

“The market in which Implanet operates is already of considerable size, and demographics are expected to fuel strong growth in the coming years. We think that Implanet has the potential to capitalize on these opportunities,” said Implanet CEO Erick Cloix.

Dr. Rainer Strohmenger, a General Partner at Wellington, added: “We are particularly impressed by the highly entrepreneurial spirit and experience of Implanet’s management team, who had already been involved in building Spine Next. This specialist in orthopedic spinal implant devices was very successfully sold to Abbott in 2004. With Implanet, they now have the opportunity to snowball the Spine Next story.” Strohmenger will join the Implanet board of directors as a Wellington representative.

With Implanet, Wellington is making its first investment from its Wellington Partners Ventures III Life Science Fund. This fund had already announced a €50-million first closing earlier this year, and is still also open to private investors through a German feeder fund (please see the www.wellington-private-clients.de website, available only in the German language).

About Wellington Partners

Wellington Partners (www.wellington-partners.com) ranks among the most successful pan-European venture capital firms. With €500 million under management, the firm invests into opportunities throughout Europe that have the potential to become global leaders, mainly in the areas of Information Technology, Media Convergence and Life Science. Since 1991, Wellington has established a worldwide network to aid its entrepreneurs in building companies on a global scale. Wellington Partners has invested in more than 90 companies in Europe and Israel, including publicly traded Actelion, Wavelight and XING, successful privately held companies like Alando (acquired by eBay) and Grandis (acquired by Novartis) as well as current portfolio companies like immatics, mtm laboratories and Trigen.

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