

**/ Wellington Partners wins new Venture Partner – Approval expert
Ulrich Granzer augments Life Science team /**

Munich, October 05, 2004. With Dr. Ulrich Granzer (44), Wellington Partners is winning one of Germany's most distinguished drug regulatory experts as a new Venture Partner. With more than ten years of management experience, including positions at Glaxo Wellcome and BASF, Ulrich Granzer set up his own company in 2002. He now works as an independent consultant to both pharmaceutical companies as well as biotech providers in connection with drug development and regulatory affairs. "An intelligent approval strategy can dramatically shorten the time it takes to develop a new drug, thus saving tens of millions," stresses Wellington Partner Rainer Strohmenger. "That's why we highly appreciate that Ulrich Granzer will be working even more closely with us and our portfolio companies in the future in connection with this key issue."

The new Venture Partner has already been involved with Wellington's portfolio company immatics for more than a year as a member of its advisory council and a co-investor. Working in close coordination with the regulatory authorities, his involvement enabled preclinical testing to be shortened by at least 3 to 6 months as opposed to the original planning. Since joining Glaxo Wellcome in 1989, Granzer had been able to gather a wealth of experience in regulatory affairs. At Glaxo Wellcome, he last served as a member of the Global Regulatory Board, operating out of Hamburg and London. He then worked at Germany's two leading pharmaceutical houses, Bayer and BASF Pharma, where he held global responsibility for regulatory affairs.

Life Science manager Granzer is Wellington Partners' seventh Venture Partner; these are top managers who the Munich-based VC firm actively integrates into its network. Venture Partners advise and support portfolio companies, serve on their supervisory boards and are also involved in new investments. Wellington Partners' existing Venture Partners include Actelion co-founder Thomas Widmann as well as former o.tel.o manager Eberhard Plattfaut.

About Wellington Partners

Wellington Partners was formed in 1991 and invests in young start-ups throughout Europe in the fields of information and communication technology and life science, and numbers among Europe's most successful early-stage investors. The Wellington Partners I fund has already returned 1.7 times its subscribed capital. The Munich-based company today manages a total fund volume of EUR 265 million.

To date, Wellington Partners has invested in over 70 companies and has sold 20 of them at a profit, in four cases through an IPO. Serving as the lead or co-investor, the company has already accompanied e.g. Chipbroker ACG or biotech player Actelion in going public, and sold e.g. Grandis Biotech to Novartis, WLAN AG to Swisscom and the German auctioneer Alando to eBay. Further information: www.wellington.de.

Further information

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