

Wellington Partners Strengthens its Medtech Portfolio

- **New portfolio company: French-based SuperSonic Imagine (SSI)**
- **SSI receives CE mark for its first product, a revolutionary ultrasound system with elastography functionality**
- **Wellington Partners III Life Science Fund now invested in six medtech companies**

Munich, 27 May 2009. Together with ICSO Private Equity, Wellington Partners has led the extension of the Series B round for SuperSonic Imagine, originally with Edmond de Rothschild Investment Partners as lead investor, to a total of €26 million. This second round of financing will take SuperSonic Imagine to the industrialization and commercialization phase of the Aixplorer® Ultrasound System, with its first clinical application dedicated to diagnosing pathological changes in the breast. The system already received the CE Mark and is now marketed through three SSI offices in the major European markets France, Germany and the UK, as well as in many other countries with the support of more than 20 distribution partners.

Jacques Souquet, founder and CEO of SuperSonic Imagine, commented at the closing of the round: "We are delighted by the trust Wellington and our other investors have placed in us and we are excited about the very good response we have received from the market regarding our unique technology, which will revolutionize ultrasound medical imaging." For the first time, the new imaging mode transient elastography allows tissue elasticity to be measured and quantified, which is of highest importance for early detection of malignant tumors like breast cancer.

With this investment, Wellington Partners is further expanding its portfolio of innovative medtech companies. The pan-European VC firm already invested in companies such as orthopedic specialist Implanet, colonoscopy innovator invendo medical and glaucoma diagnostic company Sensimed. Wellington Partner Erich Schlick explains: "In times of strained budgets and global recession, the healthcare systems of all major developed countries are longing for innovative and at the same time highly cost-efficient medical devices. SSI has developed such a technology, which will help patients as there is a higher chance of an early detection of tumors, and at the same time will help healthcare systems avoid expensive treatments of late-stage cancer — a unique win-win situation!"

About SuperSonic Imagine

SuperSonic Imagine, based in Aix-en-Provence, France, is a young, innovative, multicultural company with a commitment to providing advanced technology to improve medical diagnosis. Founded in 2005 by world-renowned ultrasound and medical imaging research scientists, SuperSonic Imagine has developed Aixplorer®, an ultrasound system with a revolutionary imaging technology. With close to 100 employees in offices on 4 continents, the company holds twenty-one international patents and submissions that are solely owned and solely used by SuperSonic Imagine.

www.supersonicimagine.com

About Aixplorer®

Aixplorer® is a next-generation ultrasound imaging system with unique technology that offers advantages in lesion detection and characterization. Using a method of imaging called ShearWave™ Elastography, Aixplorer can measure true tissue elasticity, in real time providing quantifiable, user-skill independent and reproducible results. The Aixplorer ultrasound system also provides impeccable images and sophisticated features all packaged in an ergonomic design, to assist in the imaging diagnostic process. Aixplorer was named after its birthplace, Aix-en-Provence, in France.

About Wellington partners

Wellington Partners is one of the most successful pan-European venture capital firms. With some €800 million under management and offices in Munich, London, Palo Alto and Zurich, the firm invests into companies throughout Europe that have the potential to become global leaders, in the areas of Digital Media, Technology and Life Sciences.

Since 1998, Wellington has invested in more than 100 companies, including publicly traded Actelion, Wavelight and XING and successful privately held companies like Alando (acquired by eBay) and Grandis (acquired by Novartis). For more information please visit www.wellington-partners.com.

Contact

Wellington Partners
Erich Schlick
General Partner

T: +49 2199 4139

Email: schlick@wellington-partners.com