

Media Release

Synthes Settles with New Jersey Attorney General and Agrees to Reimburse Investigation Costs of US\$ 236,000

West Chester (PA), USA, May 5, 2009

Synthes, Inc. ("Synthes", SWX:SYST.VX) announced today that it has entered into an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance Agreement ("AVC") with the State of New Jersey and its Division of Consumer Affairs. The AVC reinforces Synthes' compliance policies regarding the collection and dissemination of information about relevant financial relationships of its clinical investigators.

The AVC represents a settlement of an inquiry initiated in 2008 by the New Jersey Attorney General. The inquiry focused on Synthes' disclosure of the financial interests of certain investigators involved in the clinical trials for the artificial spinal discs, ProDisc-L and ProDisc-C (collectively "ProDisc"), which were approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") in August 2006 and December 2007, respectively.

Patient safety and the effectiveness of the ProDisc products were not issues in the inquiry. The FDA was advised of the results of the New Jersey inquiry and has not changed its conclusions that the ProDisc clinical studies are scientifically valid and that the ProDisc products are safe and effective.

Collaborations between physicians and the medical device industry have been important in the development of new and innovative clinical solutions. The FDA expressly permits clinical investigators to have financial interests in a product or company. The FDA requires, however, that clinical investigators disclose their relevant financial relationships to the company sponsoring a study and that the company report these financial disclosures to the FDA. It is important to note that FDA-approved clinical trials are specifically designed to eliminate or minimize the potential for investigator bias.

In the interest of a speedy resolution to the inquiry, Synthes voluntarily entered into the AVC without any admission of wrongdoing and has agreed to reimburse the State of New Jersey for the cost of the investigation in the amount of US\$ 236,000. No fines or penalties were paid by Synthes.

Synthes strives to meet the highest legal and ethical standards and maintains a comprehensive compliance program that is regularly reviewed and updated. In particular, Synthes seeks to promote unbiased clinical trials and full disclosure of clinical investigators' relevant financial relationships.

Synthes: A leading medical device company

Synthes is a leading global medical device company. We develop, produce and market instruments, implants and biomaterials for the surgical fixation, correction and regeneration of the human skeleton and its soft tissues.

Image Bank

A selection of product and company images can be found on <http://www.synthes.com/html/Media-Corner.7325.0.html?&L=0>.

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Restrictions Subject to US Securities Law

Synthes, Inc. management believes certain statements in this media release may constitute "Forward-Looking Statements" within the meaning of the "Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995". These statements include but are not limited to those with respect to the potential for Synthes to offer new products and market existing ones, as well as the expected sales and sales growth of Synthes. These statements are made on the basis of management's views and assumptions regarding future events and business performance as of the time the statements are made. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied. Such differences may result from the ability of Synthes to successfully develop and introduce new products and services and market existing products and services in a competitive marketplace and changes in the economic conditions that may affect the performance of the operations of Synthes. In addition, changes in competitive conditions and regulatory developments may affect future business performance, and changing market conditions may affect the valuation of Synthes securities. In addition, it should be noted that past financial and operational performance of the company is not necessarily indicative of future financial and operational performance. Synthes undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The securities of Synthes have been offered and sold outside the United States and have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Securities Act"). Such securities may not be offered, sold or transferred in the U.S. or to U.S. Persons (as defined in the regulations of the Securities Act), except pursuant to a registration statement filed under the Securities Act or under an applicable exemption under the Securities Act. Hedging transactions involving such securities may not be conducted unless in compliance with the Securities Act. The Synthes securities are deemed "Restricted Securities" as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act.