



Bayer AG
Investor Relations
51368 Leverkusen
Germany
www.investor.bayer.com

Investor News

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European Patent Office decides on Yasmin[®] patent challenge

Leverkusen, July 8, 2011 – The Board of Appeal of the European Patent Office has decided to revoke Bayer Pharma AG's formulation patent for Yasmin[®], Yasminelle[®] and YAZ[®] (EP 1214076 - micronization). This annuls the opposition division's decision in 2006 confirming the respective patent against which Hexal (Sandoz) submitted a notice of appeal. A decision on possible next steps will be taken by the company after studying the reasons of the decision.

"We are disappointed by the decision that the European Patent Office didn't concur with our legal opinion", said Dr. Flemming Ornskov, Head of Strategic Marketing General Medicine at Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals. "In spite of the Board of Appeal's decision we remain confident that we can maintain our European leadership position in Women's Healthcare with innovative product launches. Our late-stage pipeline includes a new hormonal intrauterine contraceptive (LCS) and a contraceptive patch."

About Bayer HealthCare

The Bayer Group is a global enterprise with core competencies in the fields of health care, nutrition and high-tech materials. Bayer HealthCare, a subgroup of Bayer AG with annual sales of EUR 16.913 billion (2010), is one of the world's leading, innovative companies in the healthcare and medical products industry and is based in Leverkusen, Germany. The company combines the global activities of the Animal Health, Consumer Care, Medical Care and Pharmaceuticals divisions. Bayer HealthCare's aim is to discover and manufacture products that will improve human and animal health worldwide. Bayer HealthCare has a global workforce of 55,700 employees (Dec 31, 2010) and is represented in more than 100 countries. Find more information at www.bayerhealthcare.com.

Bayer AG, Investor Relations contacts:

Dr. Alexander Rosar (+49-214-30-81013)

Dr. Juergen Beunink (+49-214-30-65742)

Peter Dahlhoff (+49-214-30-33022)

Judith Nestmann (+49-214-30-66836)

Dr. Olaf Weber (+49-214-30-33567)

Fabian Kligen (+49-214-30-35426)

Ute Menke (+49-214-30-33021)

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