

# Starpharma sells Agrochemicals business to Agrium for \$35M

**Melbourne, Australia; 14 June 2017:** Starpharma Holdings Ltd (ASX: SPL, OTCQX: SPHRY) today announced that it has completed a transaction to sell its agrochemicals and Priostar<sup>®</sup> business (**Starpharma Agrochemicals**) to Agrium, Inc., (**Agrium**) (NYSE: AGU, TSE: AGU) for A\$35 million in cash consideration. The Starpharma Agrochemical business will be operated by Agrium's wholly-owned subsidiary, Loveland Products, Inc.

Starpharma Agrochemicals is comprised of key patents and technical know-how as well as a small number of staff dedicated solely to Priostar<sup>®</sup> dendrimers and agrochemicals operations. This business is independent of Starpharma's DEP<sup>®</sup> and VivaGel<sup>®</sup> products and related intellectual property portfolios.

The cash proceeds from the sale of Starpharma Agrochemicals have further strengthened Starpharma's balance sheet and will allow Starpharma to focus its resources and activities on its core pharmaceutical development portfolios, including DEP<sup>®</sup> drug delivery. Starpharma intends to use the funds to accelerate the development and commercialisation of its higher-value pharmaceutical dendrimer-based products and to explore other opportunities in this area of the business. With the net proceeds from the transaction, Starpharma estimates a cash balance of greater than \$60 million at 30 June 2017.

Commenting on the transaction, Starpharma Chief Executive Officer, Dr Jackie Fairley said: "The sale of Starpharma Agrochemicals is an exciting milestone for the company and the culmination of our strategy to maximise the value of the Priostar<sup>®</sup> technology. We achieved this outcome through the development of a range of value-added formulations utilising Priostar<sup>®</sup> to a stage where those products had high attraction value as differentiated products for a market-facing third party such as Agrium. It's a very pleasing outcome, Agrium is an ideal buyer to realise the full potential of Priostar<sup>®</sup>".

"The proceeds from the sale of Starpharma Agrochemicals places Starpharma in an excellent financial position to expand and accelerate the development of its internal DEP<sup>®</sup> programs, and increase shareholder value through its pharmaceutical portfolio."

The transaction involves the sale of Starpharma's wholly-owned US subsidiary, Dendritic Nanotechnologies, Inc., and a newly created Australian subsidiary containing all Priostar<sup>®</sup> and agrochemical intellectual property and business assets.

The sale of Starpharma's Agrochemicals business to Agrium follows a global process conducted by Starpharma and its financial adviser, Macquarie Capital (Australia) Limited.

A copy of Agrium's news release is available at: <u>www.agrium.com/en/investors/news-releases</u>.

## **Investor Conference Call:**

An investor conference call will be conducted at 11:00am (AEST) today to discuss the sale of Starpharma Agrochemicals.

## Please quote conference ID: 258440

To register please go to <u>https://services.choruscall.com.au/diamondpass/buchan-258440-invite.html</u>

#### About Starpharma Agrochemicals

The Starpharma Agrochemicals business develops proprietary products based on its unique Priostar<sup>®</sup> dendrimer technology – which is used to enhance crop protection products. The suite of enhanced products under development provide numerous benefits over existing products – such as improved weed control capabilities, higher seedling density and reduced environmental impacts. Starpharma Agrochemicals has partnerships with a number of global partners to enhance agricultural formulations, including with Adama for 2,4-D herbicides in the US.

#### About Agrium Inc. (NYSE: AGU, TSE: AGU)

Agrium Inc. is a major global producer and distributor of agricultural products, services and solutions. Agrium produces nitrogen, potash and phosphate fertilizers, with a combined wholesale nutrient capacity of over nine million tonnes. Agrium also supplies key products and services directly to growers, including crop nutrients, crop protection, seed, as well as agronomic and application services. Agrium's retail-distribution has over 1,500 facilities and over 3,800 crop consultants who provide advice and products to growers. For more information visit. <u>www.agrium.com</u>.

#### About Loveland Products, Inc.

Loveland Products, Inc. offers a complete line of high-performance input products to the global agricultural and professional non-crop industries. Loveland Products' diversified portfolio of premium products consists of seed treatment, plant nutrition, fertilizer, adjuvant and crop protection products, which are available through Agrium Retail in North America, South America and Australia, and through distribution partners in over 40 countries globally. For more information visit: www.lovelandproducts.com.

## **ABOUT STARPHARMA**

Starpharma Holdings Limited (ASX: SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY), located in Melbourne Australia, is an ASX 300 company and is a world leader in the development of dendrimer products for pharmaceutical, life science and other applications.

Starpharma's underlying technology is built around dendrimers – a type of synthetic nanoscale polymer that is highly regular in size and structure and well suited to pharmaceutical and medical uses. Starpharma has two core development programs: VivaGel® portfolio and DEP® drug delivery with the Company developing a number of products internally and others via commercial partnerships.

Starpharma's portfolio includes late stage women's health products based on VivaGel® (SPL7013, astodrimer sodium), a proprietary dendrimer. VivaGel® formulated as a water based gel and delivered vaginally - VivaGel® BV - has EU regulatory approval for topical treatment and rapid relief of bacterial vaginosis (BV) and is also under clinical development for the prevention of recurrent BV. Starpharma has signed a license agreement with Aspen Pharmacare Australia Pty Ltd for the sales and marketing of VivaGel® BV in Australia and New Zealand. Starpharma has also signed separate license agreements with Ansell Limited (ASX:ANN), Okamoto Industries. Inc., (TSE: JP3192800005), Sky and Land (China) and Koushan Pharmed (Iran) to market a value-added, VivaGel® condom. The VivaGel® condom is available for purchase in Australia and in Canada under Ansell's Lifestyles® Dual Protect™ brand. Ansell manufactures and sells leading condom brands worldwide, including LifeStyles®, Manix®, ZERO® and SKYN®. Okamoto is the market leader for condoms sold in Japan, which is the world's second largest condom market.

The other major part of Starpharma's pharmaceuticals business is its proprietary DEP<sup>®</sup> drug delivery platform. Starpharma has both partnered and internal DEP<sup>®</sup> programs in Drug Delivery. A number of dendrimer-enhanced, or DEP<sup>®</sup> versions of existing drugs are under development by the Company. The most advanced of these is DEP<sup>®</sup> docetaxel, a dendrimer-enhanced version of docetaxel (Taxotere<sup>®</sup>), which is in clinical development in patients with solid tumours. In preclinical studies DEP<sup>®</sup> docetaxel has shown significant tumour-targeting and superior anti-cancer effects across a range of important cancer types including breast, prostate, lung and ovarian tumour, when compared to Taxotere<sup>®</sup> (docetaxel). In the partnered area, AstraZeneca has signed a licensing agreement with Starpharma for the use of its DEP<sup>®</sup> drug delivery platform in the development and commercialisation of a number of AstraZeneca oncology compounds.

For more information please visit: www.starpharma.com

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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#### Forward Looking Statements

This document contains certain forward-looking statements, relating to Starpharma's business, which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "promising", "plans", "anticipated", "will", "project", "believe", "forecast", "expected", "estimated", "targeting", "aiming", "set to", "potential", "seeking to", "goal", "could provide", "intends", "is being developed", "could be", "on track", or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential filings or marketing approvals, or potential future sales of product candidates. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no assurance that any existing or future regulatory filings will satisfy the FDA's and other authorities' requirements regarding any one or more product candidates nor can there be any assurance that such product candidates will be approved by any authorities for sale in any market or that they will reach any particular level of sales. In particular, management's expectations regarding the approval and commercialization of the product candidates could be affected by, among other things, unexpected trial results, including additional analysis of existing data, and new data; unexpected regulatory actions or delays, or government regulation generally; our ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection; competition in general; government, industry, and general public pricing pressures; and additional factors that involve significant risks and uncertainties about our products, product candidates, financial results and business prospects. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Starpharma is providing this information as of the date of this document and does not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or developments or otherwise.