



PRESS RELEASE

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**PHARMACY CHAIN 36.6 FURTHER STRENGTHENS ITS POSITIONS
IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA**

*Over the past year Pharmacy Chain 36.6 has increased its presence in the region
by 2.5-fold and raised its market share in the city of Sochi to 30%*

19 DECEMBER 2007, MOSCOW – Pharmacy Chain 36.6 [MICEX: RU14APTK1007; RTS: APTK] announces the completion of six acquisitions of pharmacy chains with a total of 29 pharmacies. The turnover of the acquired pharmacies reached \$18.8 million in 2006. The financial details of the transactions are not being disclosed.

Pharmacy Chain 36.6 acquired pharmacy chains in the following cities of Southern Russia:

Sochi – Pharmacy chains AIR (5 pharmacies) and Shpil (5 pharmacies), situated in the city of Sochi and neighboring areas (Adler, Khosta, Lazarevskoye). The total turnover of these chains in 2006 amounted to \$4.2 million, which is about 20% of the total market sales. The average floor space of the pharmacies is approximately 60-70 sq. meters.

Novocherkassk – Pharmacy chain Alma, which comprises 11 pharmacies in the city of Novocherkassk. The chain's turnover in 2006 totaled \$10.4 million, with floor space averaging 80-100 sq. meters per pharmacy.

Anapa – Pharmacy chains Pharmakon (4 pharmacies) and Ozon (2 pharmacies). The chains' turnover in 2006 totaled \$3.1 million, with floor space averaging 90 sq. meters for Pharmakon pharmacies and 40 sq. meters for Ozon pharmacies.

Novorossiysk – Pharmacy chain Kometa-A (2 pharmacies), which recorded a turnover of \$1.1 million in 2006. The average floor space of the pharmacies is approximately 100-120 sq. meters.

At present an internal audit is underway and the chains are being integrated into Pharmacy Chain 36.6. Following the audit a decision will be made on the rebranding and reformatting of the acquired pharmacies.

Number of pharmacies of Pharmacy Chain 36.6 by Business Unit as of 19 December 2007:

	Number of pharmacies as of 1 October 2007	Acquired pharmacies	Total number of pharmacies as of 19 December 2007*
Moscow BU	374	-	390
Ural BU	360	-	370
Volga BU	132	-	137
South BU	158	29	192
West Siberia BU	34	-	37
Northwest BU	32	-	31
Total*:	1090	29	1157

* Data includes the organic net growth (newly opened pharmacies) of Pharmacy Chain 36.6

Commentary

Jere Calmes, President, Pharmacy Chain 36.6:

"The acquisition of new chains in the capital of the Black Sea coast, the city of Sochi, and other cities in Southern Russia substantially strengthens our positions and provides us with a dominating presence not only on the coast. Over the past year we have succeeded in increasing the presence of Pharmacy Chain 36.6 in the region by 2.5-fold and raising our market share in Sochi to 30%. Today Sochi is one of the most dynamically developing and appealing regions for investment, which is strategically important to the further development and geographic expansion of Pharmacy Chain 36.6."

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About Pharmacy Chain 36.6:

Pharmacy Chain 36.6 is the first public national health and beauty retailer listed on the "B" list on the RTS (ticker: APTK) and off-list on MICEX (ticker: RU14APTK1007). Market capitalisation (not counting the additional placement of shares) as of 18.12.2007 was USD 684 million based on RTS share prices. Pharmacy Chain 36.6 operates over 1100 stores in 29 regions and 90 cities in Russia. OAO Veropharm, the company's generics subsidiary, is one of Russia's top five manufacturers (according to Pharmexpert research). Veropharm's shares are traded in the "B" list on the RTS (ticker: VRPH) and off-list on MICEX (ticker: VRFM). Market capitalisation as of 18.12.2007 was USD 512,5 million based on RTS share prices. ZAO Apteki 36.6 is one of the founding members of the Russian Association of Pharmacy Chains (RAPC). Pharmacy Chain 36.6 is a participating member of the international retailers' organizations – NRF and NACDS. Pharmacy Chain 36.6 employs 12,000 people.

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