

NEWS RELEASE

MEDICINE SHOPPE INTERNATIONAL, INC. ANNOUNCES CHINA MASTER FRANCHISEE DEAL

Investors Join Forces to Bring Medicine Shoppe® Pharmacies to World's Largest Country

ST. LOUIS – OCTOBER 30, 2002 - Medicine Shoppe International, Inc. (MSI) – a wholly owned subsidiary of Cardinal Health, Inc., the leading provider of products and services supporting the health care industry – announced today a master franchise agreement bringing Medicine Shoppe® Pharmacies to China. MSI is one of the first American pharmacies to operate in China and plans to open 100-plus stores in the next three to five years. MSI will work with Pacific Gateway Capital LLC (PGC), a privately held investment firm headquartered in Greenville, S.C., and Neptunus Star, one of China's top five retail pharmacy chains based in Shenzhen, southern China, to tap into the significant market potential that exists in the world's largest country. As China's master franchisee, the joint venture formed by PGC and Neptunus Star will control all of the country's sub-franchisees. The agreement was signed in late June, and the first store opened in Shenzhen in September.

This arrangement will permit MSI to leverage its successful experience in the Pacific Rim region and strategically enter the emerging pharmacy market in China. The master franchise agreement for China represents the eighth of MSI's master franchise licenses, including four others in the region - Taiwan, Australia, Indonesia and India. Over 100 Medicine Shoppe® Pharmacies currently operate in the Pacific Rim region. China's entry into the World Trade Organization and recent changes enacted in the country's laws governing pharmacies set the stage for tremendous pharmacy growth throughout China.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for us to further build upon our presence in the Asian markets," said Mark Parrish, president of MSI. "We are delighted with the Asian pharmacy expertise our partners bring to the table, and believe we are poised for success in this new territory."

"With the right partnership in MSI, Neptunus Star and PGC, we are in a good position to shape the way professional pharmacies are operated in China," said Peter Kwan, Pacific Gateway Capital. "Thus, the table is set for us to make this venture a success."

"China is potentially the largest market that MSI has entered internationally," said Zhu Dan, Neptunus Star. "Our collective challenge now is to make this concept successful in this pivotal market, and we believe we are uniquely positioned to do so."

About Medicine Shoppe International, Inc.

Medicine Shoppe International, Inc. (MSI) (www.medicineshoppe.com), a Cardinal Health Company, is distinguished for its commitment to providing expert, personal health care. With over 1,000 Medicine Shoppe® Pharmacies in the U.S. and more than 200 pharmacies in eight other countries, Medicine Shoppe International fills approximately 47 million prescriptions per year, making it the largest chain of independent community pharmacies in the U.S. and one of the top three franchises in the health care industry.

About Cardinal Health

Cardinal Health, Inc. (www.cardinal.com) is the leading provider of products and services supporting the health care industry. Cardinal Health companies develop, manufacture, package and market products for patient care; develop drug-delivery technologies; distribute pharmaceuticals, medical-surgical and laboratory supplies; and offer consulting and other services that improve quality and efficiency in health care. Headquartered in Dublin, Ohio, Cardinal Health employs more than 49,000 people on five continents and produces annual revenues of more than \$44 billion. Cardinal Health is ranked #23 on the current Fortune 500 list and was named as one of "The World's Best" companies by *Forbes* magazine in 2002.

Except for historical information, all other information in this news release consists of forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected, anticipated or implied. The most significant of these uncertainties are described in Cardinal Health's Form 10-K, Form 8-K and Form 10-Q reports (including all amendments to those reports) and exhibits to those reports, and include (but are not limited to) the costs, difficulties, and uncertainties related to the integration of acquired businesses, the loss of one or more key customer or supplier relationships, changes in the distribution outsourcing patterns for health-care products and/or services, the costs and other effects of governmental regulation and legal and administrative proceedings, and general economic and market conditions. Cardinal Health undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.

Information regarding the identity of the persons who may, under SEC rules, be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of stockholders of Syncor International Corporation in connection with the proposed merger, and their interests in the solicitation, is

set forth in a Schedule 14A filed by Syncor on June 14, 2002 with the SEC. Cardinal Health has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 in connection with the transaction, and Syncor is mailing a definitive proxy statement/prospectus to its stockholders in connection with the transaction. Investors and security holders of Syncor are urged to read the definitive proxy statement/prospectus because it contains important information about Cardinal Health, Syncor and the transaction. A free copy of the definitive proxy statement/prospectus may be obtained from Cardinal Health or Syncor or at the SEC's Web site at www.sec.gov. Information regarding the interests of Syncor's officers and directors in the transaction is included in the definitive proxy statement/prospectus. In addition to the registration statement on Form S-4 filed by Cardinal Health in connection with the transaction, and the definitive proxy statement/prospectus mailed to the stockholders of Syncor in connection with the transaction, each of Cardinal Health and Syncor file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy and information statements, and other information with the SEC. Investors may read and copy any of these reports, statements and other information at the SEC's public reference room located at 450 5th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20549. Investors should call the SEC at 1-800/SEC-0330 for further information. The reports, statements and other information filed by Cardinal Health and Syncor with the SEC are also available for free at the SEC's Web site at www.sec.gov. A free copy of these reports, statements and other information may also be obtained from Cardinal Health or Syncor. The proxy statement/prospectus contains important information that should be read carefully by investors before making any voting or investment decision.

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