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**MERZ PHARMACEUTICALS, LLC NOMINATED
FOR NATIONAL AMERICAN BUSINESS ETHICS AWARD**

GREENSBORO, N.C. –Merz Pharmaceuticals, LLC, a specialty pharmaceutical company dedicated to addressing patients' unmet medical needs in the field of dermatology, has been nominated to receive the American Business Ethics Award (ABEA), a national recognition program sponsored by the Foundation for Financial Service Professionals. The nomination follows upon Merz' receipt of the Piedmont Business Ethics Award in November 2007.

The ABEA recognizes U.S. companies that exemplify high standards of ethical behavior in their everyday business conduct and in response to specific crises or challenges. An independent panel of ethics experts drawn from the business, academic, public service, media, and consulting communities serve as judges for the ABEA program.

Recognizing that business ethics are one of the few things that cannot be purchased or dictated into a business plan, Merz Chief Executive Officer, Terry Conrad, sees ethical practice as a fundamental value that must be led by example.

"A culture built around sound business ethics and practice will provide security to those who work to meet company goals," he said. "Ethics policies can guide, but business leaders must live and portray strong business ethics each and every day." As an example, Merz' commitment to business ethics is demonstrated through continuous review, development and adherence to a common vision, mission and core values, hiring practices and its focus on community service as well as implementation of an Ethics Compliance Hotline.

Merz was awarded the 2007 Piedmont Business Ethics Award by the Greensboro Chapter of the Society of Financial Service Professionals (SFSP), following review by an independent panel of judges drawn from Piedmont academia. The Society's Greensboro Chapter is part of a national network of more than 200 SFSP chapters. Founded in 1928, the Society is headquartered in Bryn Mawr, PA, and has nearly 20,000 members nationwide who help families, individuals and businesses achieve their financial goals.

Established in 1994 by the Society of Financial Service Professionals, the ABEA award program embodies the Society's 75-year advancement of sound business ethics in insurance and financial services, especially among its nearly 20,000 members. In 2007, sponsorship of the American Business Ethics Awards was assumed by the Foundation for Financial Service Professionals.

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About Merz Pharmaceuticals:

A specialty pharmaceutical company, Merz Pharmaceuticals focuses on the development of innovative healthcare solutions that improve self-esteem and quality of life. Merz proudly distributes, Naftin[®] (naftifine HCl 1%) and several non-prescription products, including Mederma[®] Skin Care for Scars[™], the #1 doctor- and pharmacist-recommended product for scars as well as new Mederma[®] Cream plus SPF 30 and Mederma[®] for Kids[™], the #1 pediatrician-recommended product for children's scars; Appearex[®], the #1 dermatologist-recommended product for strengthening nails; and Aqua Glycolic[®], an alpha hydroxy acid-based skin care system.

Globally, Merz is a leader in research and development of pharmaceuticals for the treatment of neurological disorders as well as for aesthetic dermatology, including best-in-class products for the treatment of wrinkles and aging skin, hair loss and acne.

Merz is known worldwide for its development of original compounds and formulations sold to medical professionals and consumers in 90 countries.

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