



## **MERZ NORTH AMERICA ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF GREG BESASE AS VICE PRESIDENT, U.S. DERMATOLOGY**

GREENSBORO, N.C. – JULY 2, 2013 – Merz North America (U.S. affiliate of Merz Pharma Group) today announced the appointment of Greg Besase as Vice President, Dermatology effective immediately. Besase joined Merz in December 2012 as Director of Marketing, Dermatology and has served as the interim head of the U.S. Dermatology Business Unit since February 2013.

In his new role as Vice President, U.S. Dermatology, Besase is responsible for Merz's growing dermatology business unit in the U.S., including the recently approved product Naftin<sup>®</sup> (naftifine HCl) Gel 2%, which will be available to physicians nationwide in the fall of 2013.

"Greg has already proven himself capable of driving growth and innovation within both our dermatology business and our company as a whole. Since joining Merz, he has successfully led his team through both product approvals and product launches. He brings a wealth of experience in developing and commercializing dermatology products, and we are extremely pleased that he has agreed to take on the responsibilities of Vice President, U.S. Dermatology" said Bill Humphries, president & CEO of Merz North America.

Prior to joining Merz, Greg worked for Stiefel, a GSK Company, for nine years. Greg held several positions with Stiefel including the Head of US Dermatology Marketing, Global Commercial Lead, Sr. Product Manager (US), and District Sales Trainer. Prior to Stiefel, he worked for ITS Technologies, Inc. as a Regional Manager and later as a Business Development & Territory Manager. Prior to ITS Technologies, Inc., Greg also held sales & marketing management roles with Advanced Programming Resources, Inc. and AIM Executive, Inc. Greg brings over 19 years of sales and marketing experience to his role as head of Merz's Dermatology business unit.

Greg earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio. He is based in Merz's North American headquarters in Greensboro, North Carolina.

### **About Merz North America**

Merz North America is a specialty healthcare company that develops and commercializes innovative treatment solutions in medical and aesthetic dermatology, and neurology in the U.S. and Canada. Our ambition is to become a recognized leader in the treatment of movement disorders, and in aesthetics and dermatology. Our future is promising, and we are committed to advancing new therapeutic options and improving patients' lives. For more than 100 years, the development of Merz products has been based on our commitment to providing innovative medical approaches that earn trust of patients, physicians and partners worldwide. Globally, the companies of Merz Pharma Group are

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focused on medications for treating neurological and psychiatric illnesses, and they have assumed a leading role in the field of Alzheimer's disease research. Founded in 1908, Merz Pharma Group is a privately owned company headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany.

Strategic U.S. dermatology brands include [Onmel™](#), [Naftin®](#), and [Aluvea®](#). For more information about Merz or the Company's products, please visit [www.merzusa.com](http://www.merzusa.com).

#### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION for ONMEL™, INCLUDING BOXED WARNING**

##### **WARNING: CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE, CARDIAC EFFECTS AND DRUG INTERACTIONS**

**Do not administer ONMEL™ for the treatment of onychomycosis in patients with evidence of ventricular dysfunction such as congestive heart failure (CHF) or a history of CHF.** When itraconazole was administered intravenously to dogs and healthy human volunteers, negative inotropic effects were seen. If signs or symptoms of congestive heart failure occur during administration of ONMEL™, discontinue administration.

**Drug Interactions: Co-administration of cisapride, pimozide, quinidine, dofetilide, levacetylmethadol (levomethadyl), felodipine, oral midazolam, nisoldipine, triazolam, lovastatin, simvastatin, ergot alkaloids such as dihydroergotamine, ergometrine (ergonovine), ergotamine and methylergometrine (methylergonovine) or methadone with ONMEL™ is contraindicated.** ONMEL™, a potent cytochrome P450 3A4 isoenzyme system (CYP3A4) inhibitor, may increase plasma concentrations of drugs metabolized by this pathway. Serious cardiovascular events, including QT prolongation, torsades de pointes, ventricular tachycardia, cardiac arrest, and/or sudden death have occurred in patients using cisapride, pimozide, levacetylmethadol (levomethadyl), methadone or quinidine concomitantly with itraconazole and/or other CYP3A4 inhibitors.

**Please see Full Prescribing Information, including Medication Guide for more information.**

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