GREENSBORO, N.C. – BUSINESS WIRE – Merz Pharma Group (Frankfurt am Main) announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Anteis S.A., a Swiss company which specializes in the development, manufacture and commercialization of medical devices in the area of aesthetics. With products available in more than 90 countries on five continents, Anteis has been recognized as an aesthetics leader with a reputation for innovation and a strong focus on research and development.

“The acquisition of Anteis by Merz is a unique opportunity to strengthen our presence in aesthetic medicine by bringing innovative solutions to doctors and patients,” says Philip Burchard, CEO of Merz Pharma Group. “Anteis brings substantial additions to Merz in terms of products, talent, geographic presence and manufacturing capabilities, and our two portfolios complement each other perfectly.” The acquisition of Anteis strengthens Merz’s market position in the field of aesthetics and reflects the Company’s strategy to establish itself as a global leader in medical and aesthetic dermatology.

“This significant transaction represents Merz’s continued investment in the aesthetics space,” said Bill Humphries, President and CEO of Merz North America. “Moreover, the acquisition of Anteis aligns with our overall growth strategy of coupling strong in-house R&D with thoughtful acquisitions that complement our current product portfolios.”

Anteis is responsible for the development and manufacture of the Belotero® family of products, including Belotero Balance®. As the exclusive distributor of Belotero Balance® since its approval in the U.S. in 2011, Merz has already collaborated successfully with Anteis for several years. “Belotero Balance® has already experienced tremendous success in the U.S. aesthetics space, and this acquisition provides a clear path for us to bring additional Belotero® products to market here in North America,” said Jim Hartman, Vice President and Head of U.S. Aesthetics/OTC.

The acquisition of Anteis demonstrates Merz’s ongoing growth trajectory in North America, which has been fueled by a number of recent product approvals and launches across all areas of the business. “We have increasingly invested in R&D to expand our portfolios and bring innovative, high-quality medical products to physicians and patients,” said Bhushan Hardas, Chief Scientific Officer for Merz North America. “With the addition of Anteis, we now have a tremendous opportunity to expand our R&D pipeline in aesthetics.”
This acquisition comes on the heels of Merz Pharma Group’s recent acquisition of Neocutis S.A. and its line of physician-dispensed topical skin care products. Both acquisitions support Merz’s focus on medical dermatology and aesthetics. “Adding the expertise and portfolio of Anteis strengthens Merz’s position in the Canadian market and advances our goal of global leadership in aesthetics,” said Bob Bennett, President and General Manager of Merz Pharma Canada, Ltd.

In the U.S., Merz Pharma Group’s affiliate Merz North America is an important contributor to the aesthetics space, offering a well-balanced range of products for minimally invasive treatments, including the dermal fillers Radiesse® Volumizing Filler and Belotero Balance®, the neurotoxin Xeomin® (incobotulinumtoxinA), the Mederma® family of products for scar care and stretch marks therapy and an injectable product for the treatment of varicose veins.

**About Anteis**
Anteis is a strong global player in the area of injectable medical devices based on biopolymer transformation. Anteis has developed several highly innovative and highly differentiated products in the field of aesthetics, including dermal fillers, resorbable implants and cutaneous rehydration gels. Their product lines Esthélis, Fortélis, Mesolis and Modélis as well as the Jolidermis range and the Anteis Injection System are available in over 90 countries in five continents. In addition to their competency in aesthetic dermatology, Anteis is also active in the fields of ophthalmology and orthopedics.

**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. For more information about Merz or the Company’s products, please visit [www.merzusa.com](http://www.merzusa.com).

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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION for XEOMIN® (incobotulinumtoxinA) INCLUDING BOXED WARNING

WARNING: DISTANT SPREAD OF TOXIN EFFECT

Postmarketing reports indicate that the effects of XEOMIN® (incobotulinumtoxinA) for injection, for intramuscular use, and all botulinum toxin products may spread from the area of injection to produce symptoms consistent with botulinum toxin effects. These may include asthenia, generalized muscle weakness, diplopia, blurred vision, ptosis, dysphagia, dysphonnia, dysarthria, urinary incontinence and breathing difficulties. These symptoms have been reported hours to weeks after injection. Swallowing and breathing difficulties can be life threatening and there have been reports of death. The risk of symptoms is probably greatest in children treated for spasticity but symptoms can also occur in adults treated for spasticity and other conditions, particularly in those patients who have underlying conditions that would predispose them to these symptoms. In unapproved uses, including spasticity in children and adults, and in approved indications, cases of spread of effect have been reported at doses comparable to those used to treat cervical dystonia and at lower doses.