

Media Release

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## **Sandoz to invest \$80 million in Boucherville facilities**

### **Over 100 new jobs to be created**

**Boucherville, Quebec, May 14, 2007** – Sandoz Canada announced today that it will invest \$80 million in its Boucherville facilities as demand for its generic sterile injectable pharmaceuticals continues to grow in Canada and around the world. In addition to more than 100 new positions created in 2006, 100 additional jobs will be created in Canada over the next two years.

The \$80 million investment includes:

- the construction of a second manufacturing site;
- the expansion of the drug development laboratory, purchase of state-of-the-art laboratory equipment and expansion of the quality control laboratory;
- new manufacturing equipment for the existing manufacturing plant;
- the acquisition of a additional land and building adjacent to the head office.

The investment will translate into the addition of 40,000 square feet (3,716 square meters) of manufacturing space, 10,500 square feet (975 square meters) of warehousing space and 17,000 square feet (1,579 square meters) for administrative support. In addition, the current manufacturing site will undergo improvements to ensure that it maintains its position as a top-performing production facility. By completion of this project, the production capacity will have been increased by 66 per cent.

“The Boucherville facility has quickly built within the Sandoz network a reputation for being flexible and having the ability to quickly and efficiently develop and manufacture highly complex products,” said Pierre Fréchette, President of Sandoz Canada. “The investments announced today are recognition of our expertise and our ability to meet client demand for top-quality sterile injectable pharmaceuticals,” he concluded.

The Boucherville site is the largest small-volume injectable drug production facility in Canada and within the Novartis Group of companies. Its product portfolio includes over 100 molecules such as narcotics, sedatives, antibiotics, ophthalmics, hormone treatments, corticosteroids and cardiology drugs. In addition, Boucherville is a worldwide center of excellence for the development of sterile injectable pharmaceuticals within Sandoz.

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## **About Sandoz**

Sandoz Canada develops, manufactures, markets and distributes a broad range of generic pharmaceuticals in various dosage forms. In addition to the head office, the Boucherville site includes a development center and a manufacturing plant specializing in sterile injectables and ophthalmics. Sandoz Canada currently employs close to 600 employees.

Sandoz, a division of the Novartis Group, is a global leader in the field of generic pharmaceuticals, offering a wide array of high-quality, affordable products that are no longer protected by patents. Sandoz sells in more than 110 countries a portfolio of more than 840 compounds in over 5,000 forms and dosages. Key product groups include antibiotics, treatments for central nervous system disorders, gastrointestinal medicines, cardiovascular treatments and hormone therapies. Sandoz develops, produces and markets these drugs along with pharmaceutical and biotechnological active substances and anti-infectives. In addition to the strong organic growth in recent years, Sandoz has made a series of acquisitions including Lek (Slovenia), Sabex (Canada), Hexal (Germany) and EonLabs (U.S.) In 2006, Sandoz employed around 21,000 people worldwide and posted sales of US\$6 billion.

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