

## Press Release

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Preliminary information about the financial year 2008

### **Belimed reaches sales revenue growth of 6%**

Zug, Switzerland, 06. March 2009

**Belimed, one of the worldwide leading companies in the area of cleaning, disinfection and sterilization with headquarters in Switzerland, stays on the growth path. The consolidated sales revenue increased by 6% to CHF 194.4 Mio. in the financial year 2008. Organically and in local currencies, an increase of roughly 9% was achieved. The growth in sales results mainly from the pharmaceutical business and from customer service. All world regions with the exception of America contributed to growth.**

In the year 2008 several large-scale projects could be completed successfully, e.g. in France and in the Middle East. Therefore, sales revenue increased significantly in these regions. Because the business developed positively also in further regions (Western and Southern Europe, Russia, Asia), the lower sales in America were more than compensated. Overall, the sales revenue share generated outside of Switzerland amounts to 87% (previous year 89%).

Sales revenue development in the segments pharma and customer service shows a double digit growth. On the contrary, medical sales revenue declined by 6%. The lower business activities in the US couldn't be compensated completely by increases in other regions. The lower sales revenue in the US results mainly from the fact that individual customers had problems due to the financial crisis. Therefore, the financing of their projects was difficult and investments had to be postponed.

#### **Outlook**

Business forecasts on the basis of the current economic situation are of high uncertainty. However, due to the high order backlog and the broad geographical diversification, the management of Belimed AG is confident to reach the sales volume as reported in 2008 again in 2009.

**About Belimed**

Belimed Group is active worldwide in the field of infection control and has its headquarters in CH-6300 Zug, Switzerland. The Belimed companies develop, manufacture and market specialized equipment and services that are required for the reprocessing of medical instruments and for the research and production of pharmaceutical products. Belimed washer disinfectors and sterilizers are mainly used in hospitals and in the pharmaceutical and biotech industry. The Belimed Group counts over 850 employees. With a total of 11 Belimed companies throughout Europe, North America and Asia, and many authorised partners, Belimed is represented worldwide by a strong network in over 50 countries. Further information on Belimed products and services is available at [www.belimed.com](http://www.belimed.com).

Belimed is a wholly owned subsidiary of METALL ZUG AG ([www.metallzug.ch](http://www.metallzug.ch)). Within the METALL ZUG GROUP Belimed represents the business unit Infection Control. METALL ZUG AG is listed on the stock exchange, in the segment SIX Local Caps, Zurich (Registered shares series B, securities # 3982108, Ticker METN). The METALL ZUG GROUP also includes the Household Appliances business unit (V-ZUG AG, SibirGroup AG and Gehrig Group AG), the Wire Processing business unit (Schleuniger Group) and the Real Estate business unit (MZ-Immobilien AG, Parkhotel Zug AG and ZEW Immobilien AG).

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