



BAXTER INVESTS FURTHER IN BELGIUM ***USD\$35 million expansion to create 120 additional jobs***

Lessines, Belgium, 25 March, 2009 -- As part of its ongoing investment in the country, Baxter International Inc. today confirmed that it will invest approximately USD\$35 million (approx. €27M) to expand its activities in the Walloon region of Belgium (French-speaking part of the country). As a result, 120 new jobs will be created over the next two years.

This new investment plan builds on a long list of development projects that Baxter performed on the site of Lessines during the last 15 years. Most recently, since 2004 Baxter invested more than €124 million in its Belgian manufacturing activities and created almost 300 new positions.

A meeting to mark the occasion was held today at Baxter's global headquarters in Deerfield, Illinois (outside Chicago). The Belgian delegation included Rudy Demotte, Minister-President of the Walloon Government and Jean-Claude Marcourt, Minister of Economy for Wallonia.

Commenting on the investment, Mr. Demotte said, "The Walloon Government is once again very pleased that Baxter continues to invest in our region. Companies like Baxter are essential for our economy and healthcare services. Baxter contributes greatly to the Walloon economy by creating new employment opportunities and safeguarding the country's future financial stability. Its manufacturing site in Lessines and the engineers, scientists and workers there, play a key role in providing life-saving medicines to patients in Belgium and across the world, and we take pride in this."

Baxter's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Robert L. Parkinson, Jr., added, "We have a long history of investing in Belgium dating back to 1954. This latest investment will strengthen our ability to meet customers' growing demand for our products in the future and it reinforces our long-term presence in the country."

Baxter has more than 50 manufacturing facilities worldwide, of which 20 are located in Europe. The company's first manufacturing facility outside the United States was established in Belgium in 1954. Baxter currently employs more than 2,200 people in Belgium. Eighteen hundred of these people are located at the 75,000 m² manufacturing site and distribution center in Lessines. As part of another investment, a new, state-of-the-art R&D lab and country headquarters are being built in Braine l'Alleud that will be ready at the end of 2009 and will accommodate 470 employees.

Baxter International Inc. (NYSE: BAX) develops, manufactures and markets products that save and sustain the lives of people with hemophilia, immune disorders, infectious diseases, kidney disease, trauma, and other chronic and acute medical conditions. As a global, diversified healthcare company, Baxter applies a unique combination of expertise in medical devices, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology to create products that advance patient care worldwide.

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