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**AXINN, VELTROP & HARKRIDER LLP
EXPANDS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP**

New York City, NY (September 5, 2006) – **Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP (AVH)**, a leading antitrust, intellectual property and complex litigation firm, is pleased to announce the addition of John Will Ongman to the firm’s partnership. He will reside in the Washington, DC office and focus his practice on intellectual property and regulatory matters. He will also be a member of the firm’s BioMedical Practice Group.

Mr. Ongman handles intellectual property, regulatory and antitrust matters in a variety of industries, including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, telecommunications, information technology and mechanical and electrical engineering. He counsels clients on patent validity and infringement issues and represents them in litigation in federal court and before the International Trade Commission. He also advises client on a range of FDA matters, including new and abbreviated new drug applications, current good manufacturing practices and the impact of regulatory considerations on product liability issues.

“John’s unique background in physics and medicine and his broad expertise in patent and regulatory matters highly complements our practice areas and will be invaluable to our clients,” said James Veltrop, chair of the BioMedical Practice Group. “We’re also very pleased to elevate our presence in Washington, DC with John’s experience before the FDA and the International Trade Commission.”

Mr. Ongman was educated as a scientist before turning to the law and has worked and taught in major research universities. He was a research associate in cardiac electrophysiology at Northwestern University School of Medicine. He is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University, where he has taught in the Biotechnology Program in the Medical School and currently teaches in the Industrial Leadership in Physics Program in the Graduate School. He received his bachelor's degree in engineering science from Purdue University, and his master's degree and completed Ph.D course work in physics at the University of Illinois. Mr. Ongman earned his J.D. (*cum laude*) from Northwestern University, where he was an editor of the Law Review and a member of the Order of the Coif. He is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia, New York and Illinois, and before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Also joining AV&H as a senior associate is Jo-Anne M. Kokoski, who will reside in the Hartford, Connecticut office and be a member of the BioMedical Practice Group. Previously, Ms. Kokoski was an associate with Schiff Hardin in Chicago, where she primarily represented pharmaceutical companies in Hatch-Waxman litigation. She received her S.B. in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and her J.D. from the Washington University School of Law. She's admitted to practice in Illinois but is not admitted to practice in Connecticut.

Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP offers a wide range of legal services to clients in the fields of intellectual property and complex litigation. The firm represents clients seeking to effectively enforce intellectual property rights and to avoid and defend against charges of infringement and misappropriation. The firm has extensive counseling and litigation experience in a wide range of industries, including chemicals, tools and hardware, sporting goods, mechanical equipment and consumer products.

AV&H's BioMedical Practice Group draws upon the firm's extensive intellectual property, FDA, antitrust and complex litigation skills to provide integrated services to clients at numerous phases of the product life cycle. In particular, AV&H advises clients on patent issues raised during product development, on Hatch-Waxman exclusivity issues

raised by product launch and on antitrust issues raised by patent settlements. AV&H also represents clients in litigation arising out of these issues.

AV&H has served as antitrust counsel to: BellSouth in connection with its proposed acquisition by AT&T; Movie Gallery in successfully acquiring Hollywood Video and blocking Blockbuster Video; GameStop Corp. in successfully concluding the merger investigation into its acquisition of Electronics Boutique without a second request; and Omnicare in acquiring Neighborcare. AVH also serves as global antitrust counsel to MasterCard International's Board and numerous other U.S. and international companies.
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