



Hester Pharmaceuticals Limited

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Ahmedabad
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PRESS RELEASE

MERIAL appoints HESTER PHARMACEUTICALS as their exclusive distributor in India for poultry vaccines

Merial Inc., the world's largest Animal Health company, having an annual turnover of over USD 1.2 billion, and one of the world's biggest producers of poultry vaccines, appoint Hester Pharmaceuticals Limited to market their complete range of poultry vaccines in India, on an exclusive basis.

This marketing tie-up with Merial will expand the product range of Hester, thereby enabling Hester to now offer the complete range of poultry vaccines to the Indian poultry industry in addition to its locally produced range.

Merial has exclusive vaccines for Gumboro, Newcastle, Bronchitis and Mareck's diseases. These diseases are of great economic relevance to the poultry industry. If infected with any of these diseases, it could cause great financial losses to the poultry industry.

Hester is a leading biotech company in the field of veterinary biologicals, producing 39 types poultry vaccine in Ahmedabad, India.

Hester, on an equity of Rs. 3.53 crores, has reported a turnover of Rs. 7.6 crores for the year 2003-04 as compared to Rs. 4.4 crores in the year 2002-03, a growth of 73%. Profit before tax has grown to Rs. 1.95 crores from Rs. 0.67 crores, a growth of 191% over the same period.

With this tie-up and with its on-going marketing activities of locally produced poultry vaccines, Hester is poised to maintain a similar growth rate in this financial year.

Rajiv Gandhi
Managing Director

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