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Capital Partners

Forbion Portfolio Company CircuLite® Receives CE Marking Approval For SYNERGY® Circulatory Support System

***Revolutionary Circulatory Support System Creates A New Paradigm For Early Treatment
Of Heart Failure***

Naarden, The Netherlands, 5 September 2012 – Forbion portfolio company [CircuLite®, Inc.](#) today announced that it has received CE Marking approval for the [SYNERGY®](#) Circulatory Support System, a micro-pump designed to halt the progression of heart failure. By working with the heart's native pumping capacity, SYNERGY is specifically targeted for treatment of ambulatory heart failure patients (INTERMACS 4,5,6 / NYHA IIIB and early IV) who remain symptomatic despite standard medical management.

SYNERGY is approximately the size of an AA battery and is implanted superficially in a pacemaker-like pocket under the right collarbone. SYNERGY is approximately 90 percent lighter than existing ventricular assist devices (VADs), and unlike VADs, implantation of SYNERGY is faster and does not require an open-chest procedure or cardiopulmonary bypass.

CE Marking approval was based on positive clinical results from 44 patients in an ongoing, multi-center European trial, [recently presented](#) at the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) meeting. A total of 59 patients have been implanted with the SYNERGY System in the CE Mark trial at 9 European centers.

"There is currently a gap in the treatment of heart failure, with no satisfactory options available for patients who are not responding to standard medical therapy. SYNERGY, with its small size, minimally invasive procedure and relatively fast procedure time, is ideally suited for these patients," said Bart Meyns, M.D., Ph.D., Professor and Chief of Cardiac Surgery at Gasthuisberg University Hospital and Principal Investigator of CircuLite's clinical study. "In my experience with this technology, the results have been remarkable. Patients typically recover from the procedure quickly and are soon after able to perform many activities that they could not do before. This technology allows me to provide a new treatment strategy for a large number of patients who previously had no definitive options."

"Forbion has seen CircuLite through its various stages, from its inception when the key technology was spun off from the Helmholtz Institute in Aachen, Germany, to its current level of maturity," said Martien van Osch of Forbion Capital Partners and a Director on CircuLite's Board. "The Company's products address the largest population of patients with heart failure compared to any other device-based treatment. The ability to treat a range from the less sick to severe heart failure patients clearly positions CircuLite as a leading player in this field."

"The European approval of SYNERGY is a significant milestone both for CircuLite and, more broadly, for the treatment of heart failure," said Paul Southworth, President and Chief Executive Officer of CircuLite. "SYNERGY changes the paradigm of heart failure treatment for those who are not responding to standard medical management, by working as a complement to the heart's function. The benefits are multifaceted-patients feel better, recover rapidly and are

discharged quickly-which provides the potential for a cost reduction impact for hospitals. With CE Marking in place, we will begin a controlled launch of this groundbreaking advancement in select European markets."

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About the SYNERGY® Circulatory Support System

The SYNERGY Circulatory Support System is a micro-blood pump that provides up to 4.25 liters of blood per minute and reduces the heart's workload, while improving blood flow to vital organs. The system is surgically implanted using a mini-thoracotomy and is placed in a pacemaker-like pocket. In a clinical study, SYNERGY improved hemodynamics, exercise capacity and overall quality of life. SYNERGY is designed and manufactured in Aachen, Germany.

About CircuLite®

CircuLite is developing disruptive solutions to improve the treatment of heart failure. The Company's technologies work in conjunction with the heart to enhance clinical outcomes and improve quality of life. SYNERGY®, which recently received CE Marking approval, features the smallest surgically implanted blood pump for long-term use in patients with heart failure not responding to standard medical treatment. For more information, visit our website at www.circulite.net.

About Forbion Capital Partners

Forbion Capital Partners is a dedicated Life Sciences venture capital firm with offices in Naarden, The Netherlands, and Munich, Germany. Forbion invests in life sciences companies in drug discovery & development as well as medical device companies addressing substantial unmet medical needs. Forbion's investment team of nine investment professionals has built an impressive performance track record since the late nineties with successful investments in Rhein Biotech, Crucell, Neutec, Glycart, Borealis, Impella, Alantus, Acorda, Fovea, PanGenetics, Argenta Discovery and most recently Biovex and Pathway Medical. Current assets under management exceed \$500M, split between three active funds and comprising some 28 promising portfolio companies. Forbion Capital Partners Fund II is supported by the European Investment Fund through its ERP and LfA facilities. Forbion co-manages Biogeneration Ventures, an early stage fund focused on (academic) spin-outs and seed investments in the Netherlands. For more information, please visit www.forbion.com.

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