

**Panacea Biotec announces landmark collaboration with The Nederlands Vaccin Instituut.**

Panacea Biotec Ltd. (PBL) is pleased to announce its collaboration with the Nederlands Vaccin Instituut (NVI). Under the collaboration agreement, NVI would supply bulk Inactivated Polio Vaccines (IPV), which would be used by PBL in the manufacture of finished IPV and a number of IPV based combination vaccines. PBL would register the products both in India and across the globe barring Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Finland.

Commenting on this landmark collaboration, **Mr. Rajesh Jain, Joint Managing Director, PBL** said:

“Panacea Biotec has played a pivotal role in polio eradication by supplying Trivalent and Monovalent polio vaccines to UNICEF. PBL has taken a lead step in the field of pediatric immunization with this collaboration to meet the global demand for IPV. Panacea Biotec is committed to heal the world with innovative vaccines to prevent/treat diseases for which no vaccines are currently available. The estimated demand of IPV is around 150 million doses and is likely to increase to 800 million doses by 2011 depending upon various scenarios. The expected market size is around US\$ 800 million to 1 billion. This collaboration will substantially enhance Panacea Biotec’s impact, scale and size of business.

Upon signing this contract with Panacea Biotec, **Mr. Thijs Veerman, General Director, NVI** said,

“The NVI has played a major role for the industry branch in developing efficient large scale production of the inactivated Salk polio vaccine. We are pleased with the cooperation with Panacea Biotec, thus widening out contribution to human health care.”

**About Panacea Biotec (PBL):** PBL is India’s leading research-based health management company with established research, manufacturing and marketing capabilities. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest biotechnology company (ABLE Survey 2005) in India. It is also amongst the top 50 pharmaceutical companies in India and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest vaccine manufacturer in India. Its product portfolio includes highly innovative prescription products in important therapeutic areas such as pain management, diabetes management, cardiovascular management, renal-disease management, osteoporosis management, anti-tubercular, gastro-intestinal care products and vaccines.

**About Nederlands Vaccin Instituut (NVI):** NVI is a research-based human vaccine producer, owned by the Dutch Government, with an outstanding century-old track record in vaccine development. The NVI, with a Euro 95 million annual turnover and a headcount of 375, was founded in 2003 as the result of a merger between the Vaccine Division of the National Institute of Public Health (RIVM) and the vaccine production unit SVM. The institute’s primary responsibility lies in development and supply of vaccines for the different national vaccination programs in the Netherlands, both under normal circumstances and in case of calamities, but also makes product available to third parties.

## **About Polio:**

Polio is an infectious disease caused by the poliovirus. The disease can strike at any age, but typically affects children under three years of age. The virus is passed through poor or careless hygiene, entering the body through the mouth and then multiplying inside the throat and the intestines. Once established, the poliovirus can enter the bloodstream and invade the central nervous system, spreading along nerve fibers. As it multiplies, the virus destroys the motor neurons that activate muscles. The nerve cells cannot be regenerated and the affected muscles no longer function. Polio paralysis is almost always irreversible. In most severe cases, poliovirus attacks the motor neurons of the brain stem causing difficulty in breathing and can result in death.

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