



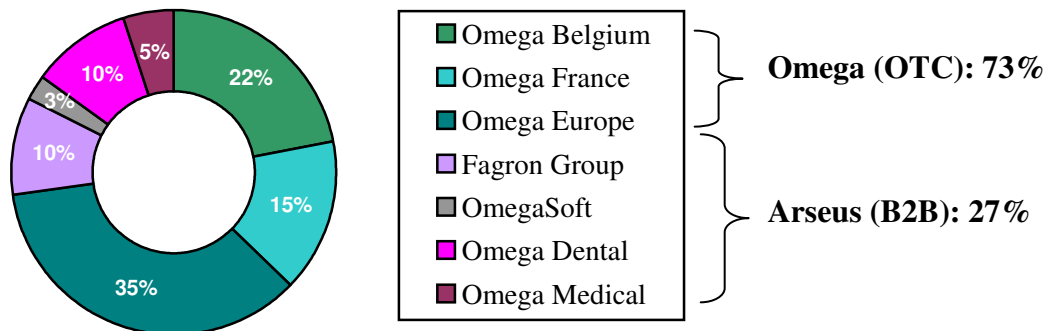
**SALES FLASH 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER 2006**

**Turnover grows 6% in 3rd quarter**

- **Third quarter turnover has demonstrated the first positive effects from recent reorganizations**
- **Omega Consumer Health (OTC): 11% growth in third quarter**
- **Arseus Professional Health (B2B): sales decrease already lowered in Q3 (-4%)**

Nazareth, Belgium 16 October 2006 — Omega Pharma has generated EUR 226.9 million in sales in the third quarter. The evolution of turnover by individual business unit is as follows:

Non-audited management figures in EUR million	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2005	% evolution 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006/2005
Omega Belgium	50.0	44.7	+12%
Omega France	34.8	34.2	+2%
Omega Europe	80.3	70.5	+14%
<b>Consumer Health (OTC)</b>	<b>165.1</b>	<b>149.4</b>	<b>+11%</b>
Fagron Group	22.0	21.3	+3%
OmegaSoft	5.7	6.6	-14%
Omega Dental	22.7	21.7	+5%
Omega Medical	11.4	14.6	-22%
<b>Professional Health (B2B)</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>Totaal Omega Pharma</b>	<b>226.9</b>	<b>213.6</b>	<b>+6%</b>



The Consumer Health activities represent 73% of the group turnover in the third quarter; the business-to-business activities of Arseus 27%.

## OMEGA CONSUMER HEALTH (OTC)

### Strong growth for Belgium and Europe — positive signals for France

The rate of growth for the third quarter is 11%. The quarterly turnover of the Star Brands increased by 15% to EUR 37.0 million, accounting for 29% of the OTC-turnover<sup>1</sup>. The corporate website ([www.omega-pharma.be](http://www.omega-pharma.be)) lists the brands with the highest contribution to the turnover in the third quarter, as well as the brands with the highest sales growth rate.

- Quarterly turnover for Omega Belgium increased by 12%. Turnover of Star Brands grew by 29%. The Eurogenerics generic medicines, distributed by Omega Pharma in Belgium, achieved strong sales growth for the third quarter in a row: +22%.
- Omega France posted a 2% growth in turnover in the third quarter, following the sharp sales decline (-18%) in the previous quarter. This achievement illustrates that the new sales organization has made a good start. Fourth-quarter results should confirm this structural improvement.
- Omega Europe achieved a 14% increase in turnover in the third quarter. This growth rate is again at the level of the strong first quarter of this year and confirms the soundness of the underlying growth trend. Omega Europe remains the business unit where the value of Omega Pharma's business model is best demonstrated.
  - The Netherlands OTC organization generated EUR 13.6 million turnover (+18%)
  - In Scandinavia, turnover grew 10% to EUR 12.1 million
  - In Germany, turnover increased by 5%, reaching EUR 11.9 million
  - Following a weak sales figure in the first quarter and a moderate improvement in the second, Omega Pharma in the United Kingdom and Ireland has now achieved a 13% growth in turnover to EUR 11.9 million
  - OTC turnover in Spain grew by 23% to EUR 9.5 million
  - In Italy, OTC turnover amounted to EUR 9.1 million (+7%)
  - 3% sales growth has been achieved in Greece (EUR 3.5 million)
  - In Portugal, turnover for the past three months was EUR 3.1 million (+7%)

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<sup>1</sup> Excluding the turnover of generic medicines in Belgium.

## **ARSEUS — PROFESSIONAL HEALTH: Q2 sales decrease is significantly lowered**

The integration exercises, the termination of unprofitable distribution contracts, as well as the development of the new business plan for Arseus, are starting to bear fruits. In the third quarter, Arseus has started its acquisition of new distribution activities that meet the requirements of the business plan and that will begin contributing to the turnover as of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

- As mentioned before, the activities of the Fagron Group are structurally sound. Fagron demonstrated a 3% growth in turnover for the third quarter.
- The price erosion of IT hardware continued to have its impact at OmegaSoft during the third quarter, which resulted in a 14% sales decrease.
- The turnover of dental activities has grown by 5%. The Arseus business plan is very attractive to suppliers of dental products and services.
- The cancellation of unprofitable distribution activities has created the biggest effect on the turnover of Medical activities. This has resulted in a sales decrease of 22% in the third quarter.

After three quarters of sales decline, Arseus management believes it will reach the expected turning point in the course of the fourth quarter. It is then expected to demonstrate sales growth again. Arseus is ready for its reference year 2007 and for the split-off in 2008.

### **Prognoses<sup>2</sup>**

Following an incidentally weak second quarter, turnover figures for the third quarter reconfirm Omega Pharma's potential to achieve an average 6% sales growth due to intrinsic synergies and a strong internationalization process.

Throughout 2006, necessary reorganization measures have been implemented — both in France and in Arseus. The effects of these measures should gradually come to the fore. It is expected that the group will achieve its long-term objective of 6% sales growth in the fourth quarter.

#### **For more information, please contact:**

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#### **Financial calendar**

Thursday 23 November 2006	:	Results 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006
Thursday 18 January 2007	:	Sales Flash 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2006
Thursday 15 March 2007	:	Results 2006

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<sup>2</sup> Disclaimer: This press release contains forward-looking information which is based on current internal estimates and expectations as well as market expectations. Forward-looking statements contain inherent risks and apply exclusively on the date they are made. The actual results may differ substantially from those included in the forward-looking statements.