



ICON and Tigermed Sign Alliance Agreement in China

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DUBLIN, Apr 07, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- ICON (NASDAQ: ICLR)(ISIN:IE0005711209), a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries and Tigermed Consulting, a leader in the provision of clinical drug development services in China, today announced that they have signed an alliance agreement.

Through this agreement, ICON and Tigermed will collaborate to offer pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients better access to Chinese patients, utilising the global reach and experience of the ICON organisation, complemented by Tigermed's in depth knowledge of the Chinese drug development landscape and geographic coverage in China. With headquarters in Shanghai, Tigermed currently operates from 21 offices in China and has over 300 clinical development staff located there.

"Tigermed has a substantial clinical operations presence on the Chinese mainland and this experience, gives them the ability to provide wide-ranging support for clinical drug development in China." commented Dr. John Hubbard, Group President, Global Clinical Research Services at ICON. "TigerMed's strength in China, complements ICON's strong regional presence in Asia Pacific and makes them the ideal partner for ICON as we continue to drive the rapid and effective development of our client's global drug development portfolios."

"We are extremely pleased to have signed this agreement with ICON" commented Xiaoping Ye, Chairman and CEO of Tigermed. "Not only are ICON recognised as a truly global provider of quality clinical services, their culture and core values built around people, performance and client focus fit well with those of Tigermed. This alliance enhances our regional and global capabilities and will enable both ICON and Tigermed to expand the range of clinical research services we can offer to clients in China and around the globe."

About ICON

ICON plc is a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. The Company specialises in the strategic development, management and analysis of programs that support clinical development - from compound selection to Phase I-IV clinical studies. With headquarters in Dublin, Ireland, ICON currently, operates from 69 locations in 39 countries and has approximately 7,300 employees. Further information is available at www.iconplc.com.

About Tigermed Consulting Co.

Tigermed Consulting Co. is the leading Contract Research Organization in China providing full clinical development services from Phase I-IV and biometrics services with particular strength in oncology, virology and cardiology. Headquartered in Shanghai, Tigermed has successfully served over 250 clients both in and outside China since inception in 2002. Tigermed has a work force of approximately 300 staff and operates 21 field offices across China and a Phase I study unit in Changsha. More info about Tigermed is available at www.tigermed.net

ICON/ICLR-G

SOURCE: ICON plc

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