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Nextmune establishes pan-European presence in atopic dermatitis for companion animals

- Nextmune establishes pan-European presence in atopic dermatitis for companion animals by Artuvet and Alergovet joining forces
- The businesses will continue to operate under separate brand names and be run in an entrepreneurial way while co-operating to ensure a stronger product offering and customer service
- The transaction will allow Nextmune to dedicate further resources to the businesses to improve quality of life for pets suffering from atopic dermatitis and better serve pet owners, veterinarians, partners and employees going forward

Nextmune Holding B.V. (“Nextmune”) today announced that it has completed the acquisition of Alergovet S.L. (“Alergovet”). Alergovet, headquartered in Madrid, Spain, was founded in 1998 by Mr. Enrique Ochando and has grown into a leading company in Southern Europe focused on the diagnosis and treatment of atopic dermatitis. The company offers high quality allergy tests and allergen-specific immunotherapy treatment through its agreement with Inmunotek S.A., one of the leading allergy companies in Europe. The therapy is tailor-made for each patient. With differentiated brands well recognized by veterinarians, Alergovet has particularly strong traction among practitioners in Southern Europe accompanied by some presence in Eastern Europe and South America. The company sells into more than 15 countries in total.

“The acquisition of Alergovet is an important building block in our journey to create a leading European specialty companion animal health company”, says Magnus Kjellberg, CEO of Nextmune group. “Dermatology is a prioritized therapeutic area for Nextmune and Alergovet is a premier company with differentiated product lines in atopic dermatitis. The transaction is underpinned by strong geographic and product complementarity. Artuvet Animal Health B.V. (“Artuvet”) has a stronghold in Northern Europe, Alergovet in Southern and Eastern Europe and on a pan-European basis as part of Nextmune. Also, while Alergovet is driven by the allergy test business line and Artuvet by the allergy treatment business line, Nextmune will be in a position to offer a broader and stronger product portfolio to serve its customers. We are impressed by the business which Mr. Ochando and Mrs. Muñoz have built and look forward to welcoming them as shareholders in Nextmune.”

“I am very pleased to find a new home for Alergovet in Nextmune”, says Mr. Enrique Ochando. “Nextmune has the platform, skillset and resources to continue to relieve pets from atopic dermatitis. I look forward to supporting Nextmune as an active shareholder as the business takes on future opportunities and challenges in atopic dermatitis”.

Also, Nextmune today announced that it has completed the acquisition of the animal health business of Oystershell NV (“Oystershell Animal Health”). The business represents an attractive portfolio of specialty nutraceuticals primarily marketed to veterinarians and offers three business lines:

- RF2: dental biofilm control which inhibits the build-up of plaque. It is based on clinically proven and patented technology;
- VETline: covers several indications such as skin protection, joint protection and ear cleaning for private label customers; and
- Breedmax: performance nutrition for bird breeders.

“Oystershell Animal Health represents a strong addition to our portfolio by targeting niche segments”, continues Magnus Kjellberg, CEO of Nextmune group. “Specialty nutraceuticals are important tools to reduce dependency on antibiotics and steroids, and represent complementary treatment in key areas of pet health. We believe there is untapped growth potential in the business by way of geographical build-out, channel expansion and line extensions.”

The transactions are not subject to any further approvals or clearances.

Nextmune is dedicated to improve quality of life for companion animals. The company’s ambition is to be the partner of choice for pet owners and veterinarians in specialized indications. With innovation being at the core of Nextmune, the company will invest in product improvement, supply and sales & marketing initiatives to offer premier treatment for the pet’s condition. The company is committed to an entrepreneurial management approach to ensure veterinarians and pet owners are catered to in the best possible way. Key shareholders of Nextmune are Fidelio Capital (www.fideliocapital.se) and Premune (www.premune.com). Nextmune is headquartered in Stockholm.

For further enquiries, please contact:

Magnus Kjellberg, CEO, +46 768 837 884, magnus.kjellberg@nextmune.com