### **PRESS RELEASE**



# AVESTHAGEN strengthens Board and gets ready for business in the global life sciences space.

## **Jacques Vincent joins its Board**

**Bangalore, July 13, 2010:** AVESTHAGEN LIMITED, India's knowledge based life sciences Company, today announced that **Mr. Jacques Vincent** has been appointed as a member of the company's Board of Directors. Mr. Jacques Vincent joins the Board in his personal capacity as a distinguished personality of the food and science international industry. Mr. Vincent is on the board of Syngenta - a multinational seed & crop-protection company in



Switzerland. Biophytis - a biotech start-up and Mediaperformance - a media company in France. He began his career with Danone in 1970 and has since held various financial and overall management positions within this group. Jacques Vincent is a graduate engineer of the Ecole Centrale, Paris, holds a bachelor in Economics from Paris University and a Master of Science from Stanford University. Mr. Vincent was the Chief Operating Officer of the Danone Group, Paris, since 1998, and was appointed as Vice Chairman and Advisor to the Chairman in 2008.

Mr. Jacques Vincent joins other high profile international board members, Ms. Dominique Takizawa, CFO – Institut Merieux, John Darbyshire, Global Head-Beverages – Nestle SA, Narayan Seshadri, Chairman & CEO Halcyon Resources & Management. Professor Chris Bowler, Marine Biologist, and Prof. Baron Marc Van Montagu, Plant Biologist. A Global Board for a Global company.

Announcing the new Board member's appointment, Dr. Villoo Morawala-Patell, Founder & CMD, Avesthagen Limited said, "Its an honour to welcome Mr. Jacques Vincent to the Avesthagen Board. He brings to the table multi-national experience and commercial knowledge, His advice along with the rest of his Board would be critical to enable commercialization of Avesthagen's unique product pipeline. We believe that his expertise will help us globalize our operations seamlessly and would give a fillip to the commercialization of our current research activities especially in the area of preventive and medical nutrition."

Regarding his appointment, Mr. Vincent said that, "When I was at Danone, we decided to support Avesthagen through research contracts which led the teams of both the companies to

work together closely and develop mutual respect for their expertise. At the same time and in addition, Danone became an investor because we could sense a bright future for Avesthagen. It is an honour and pleasure for me to be a part of this new step in Avesthagen's history."

The company is at the stage of manufacturing and commercializing its products. The new members on the board will play a key role in catalyzing the process to commercialization. The business competencies which the new members represent will complement Avesthagen's global business interests in promoting cost effective Predictive, Preventive & Personalized healthcare and Environment solutions for Agriculture through its various product offerings.

#### **About Avesthagen Limited**

AVESTHAGEN LIMITED (www.avesthagen.com) is an integrated systems biology platform company that focuses on achieving convergence of food, pharma and population genetics leading to predictive preventive and personalized healthcare. It employs 410 people worldwide and is headquartered in Bangalore. Avesthagen Limited has established world class, state-of-the-art laboratory facilities in Bangalore. It began business operations in 2001. Since its inception Avesthagen has grown into one of India's leading healthcare technology group in India, and its activities include, in addition to its agribiotechnologies product pipeline, development of clinically validated botanical bioActives, derived from Indian medicinal plants, as well as the development of a pipeline of bio-similar drugs. Avesthagen Limited has four strategic business units: bioPharmaceuticals, bioNutrition, bioAgriculture and Science & Innovation. Its partners and investors are global companies in each of its fields of research. Avesthagen Limited works with appropriate partners, both public and private, for access to and exchange of technology and overall commercial expertise to leverage the 'India advantage'.

## For more information, please contact:

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