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Diffucap Eurand SA*

International Growth through Innovation

The name *Eurand* continues to be synonymous with innovation in the field of pharmaceutical delivery technologies – an enviable reputation that has consistent-

ly grown over the past 30 years. This success owes much to *Diffucap*, the original trademark of one of *Eurand*'s major drug delivery systems. This led to the

development of multiparticulated coated drug pellets filled into hard gelatin capsules, offering innovation in terms of optimum controlled release, oral absorption and superior tolerability.

Diffucap Eurand SA, based in Stabio, utilising this and other pioneering technologies has been successfully operating as an international pharmaceutical manufacturer for the past 20 years. The manufacturing base in Ticino currently produces and sells an extensive range of products to Swiss pharmaceutical companies who package, market, and distribute them under various brand names in Switzerland.

In addition to this highly successful operation, *Diffucap Eurand SA* also exports its products to various Northern European and International pharmaceutical markets. The company also operates successfully as a third party and contract manufacturer to other *Eurand* affiliates in France and Italy.

Today, the *Eurand* Group has grown to represent a highly sophisticated and fully integrated development and manufacturing operation with coverage across Europe as well as increasingly important commercial links with *Eurand America Inc.* in Ohio, USA.



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Élan Pharma SA*

1. Historical Notes

Élan Pharma has been founded in the mid-eighties under the name of *Aesculapius Pharma*, and planned for a production activity of their own specialities, as well as contract manufacturing of effervescent granulates and tablets for Switzerland and Europe. In 1992 it has been taken over by *Élan Corporation Plc*, from which it took its name. In the same year, a reor-

ganisation started with the aim of bringing *Élan Pharma* to productive levels in line with the group's and the main international market's requests.

The plant of Mezzovico covers an area of 4000 m², containing QC laboratories, production areas, and offices.

2. Main Activities

Élan Pharma is a pharmaceutical company belonging to the multinational group *Élan Corporation Plc*, a public company having its main seat in Athlone (Ireland).

Élan Corporation Plc has production units in Ireland, USA, Holland, Switzerland, and the Philippines with ca. 1000 employees in research, development, regulatory affairs, and marketing, especially of prescription drugs.

The most important products on the market are:

- Twice-daily diltiazem
- Once-daily diltiazem
- Once-daily verapamil
- Once-daily nifedipine
- Once-daily nicotine patch
- Once-daily theophylline
- Twice-daily theophylline suspension
- Twice-daily cough-cold combination.

Élan Corporation has developed also new sophisticated technological systems of controlled release in order to improve the therapeutic use of medicines.

Élan Corporation collaborates with the most important international pharmaceutical groups.

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