



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Aptus Endosystems Completes \$30 Million Series C Financing**

*Looks to Commercialization of Pioneering Endovascular Treatment  
for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms*

Sunnyvale, CA — **January 7, 2009** — Aptus Endosystems Inc., a medical device company developing advanced technology for the endovascular treatment of aortic aneurysms, today announced it has closed a \$30 Million Series C financing. The financing was led by new investor Heron Capital and joined by other new investors including Longitude Capital and Oakwood Medical Investors. All existing investors including U.S. Venture Partners, Prism VentureWorks, Baird Venture Partners and FirstMark Capital also participated in the round.

Aptus Endosystems will use these proceeds to support completion of its STAPLE-2 US pivotal clinical study and file for subsequent PMA approval. The company will also initiate targeted commercial sales activity in the European Union upon approval of its CE Mark application, which is currently under review. Preparations for a subsequent US commercial launch for its groundbreaking Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Repair System will also be initiated.

“The Aortic Aneurysm Repair market is a significant opportunity with over \$800M in worldwide sales in 2008, and growing. Aptus has successfully developed proprietary endograft and fixation technologies that more closely approximate how a surgeon performs open surgical repair of aortic aneurysms, the current gold standard for treatment. These technologies allow the physician to perform an endovascular repair that is more durable, more compliant and more applicable to a broader patient population. This positions Aptus for significant growth in the AAA market and our investors have recognized the value of what significant clinical outcomes and advanced technology development can produce.” said Bob H. Katz, President & CEO, Aptus Endosystems Inc.

“We were impressed with the uniqueness of the company's device and delivery system relative to other options in AAA, and the clinical data has been stellar. We are very excited about the Aptus opportunity and about working with Bob and his team” added Greg Maurer, Managing Director of Heron Capital and new Aptus board member.



In late 2007, Aptus Endosystems initiated its STAPLE-2 US pivotal clinical study to demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of the Aptus Endovascular AAA Repair System. To date, over 140 patients have been successfully enrolled across 25 US clinical trial sites. In the company's Phase I study (STAPLE-1) of 21 patients enrolled at 5 US institutions, Aptus' unique endograft design, enabled by the use of its proprietary endovascular stapling system, has produced exceedingly positive clinical outcomes. As presented at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Veith Symposium (November 2008), these study results demonstrated that patients experienced no device-related endoleaks (Type I, III or IV) and no device migration of any measure, as late as 2 years post-procedure for those patients who had reached that follow-up. Additionally, over 90% of patients demonstrated a clinically significant reduction in their aneurysm size as early as six months post-procedure.

The company intends to further development of a new Thoracic Aortic Repair System, as well as continue to innovate the core AAA product line, including additional crossing profile size reductions.

#### **About Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms**

According to the American Heart Association (AHA) and American College of Cardiology (ACC), aneurysm rupture is the 13th leading cause of death in the US in men over 55, resulting in approximately 15,000 deaths per year. The incidence of aortic aneurysm disease increases every year as the population ages. Early detection and diagnosis is increasingly possible as more sophisticated medical screening methods become available. The National Institutes of Health estimates that three to six percent of men over the age of 60 have some form of AAA. In 2005, more than 21 million American males were over the age of 60, and potentially 630,000 will have an AAA. In January 2007, the SAAVE Act legislation was enacted, which included a provision for Medicare to begin payment for aneurysm screening for all people aged 65 entering the Medicare system in known high risk categories for the development of aneurysmal disease.

#### **About Aptus Endosystems, Inc.**

Aptus Endosystems is a privately held medical technology company that has developed advanced technology for the endovascular treatment of aortic aneurysm disease. Founded in 2002, Aptus Endosystems has developed a unique endograft and endovascular stapling system delivered via standard catheter technology. The technology allows surgeons to treat abdominal aortic aneurysms through a minimally invasive approach while still providing the control of an open repair. For more information, please visit [www.aptusendosystems.com](http://www.aptusendosystems.com)

#### **About Heron Capital**

Heron Capital is a venture capital fund dedicated to investing in companies focused on the life sciences, including medical devices, diagnostics and tools. The firm is advised by a world-renowned network of scientists and physicians, as well as entrepreneurs and leaders of national and multinational corporations. The mission of the Fund is to identify and invest in companies with great commercial potential, strong intellectual property and the highest quality management. For more information, please visit [www.heroncap.com](http://www.heroncap.com).



**About Longitude Capital**

Founded in 2006, Longitude Capital is a venture capital firm that invests in medical device and biotechnology companies developing products that address important unmet medical or economic needs in the life sciences industry. Longitude's investment team has more than 100 years of industry experience and has invested in over 100 life sciences companies. The firm's inaugural fund, the \$325M Longitude Venture Partners, L.P., was closed in 2008. The firm operates from offices in Menlo Park, CA and Greenwich, CT. For more information, please visit [www.longitudecapital.com](http://www.longitudecapital.com).

**About Oakwood Medical Investors**

Oakwood Medical Investors is a life sciences venture capital fund formed to invest in development stage medical device, biopharmaceutical and healthcare service companies. Target portfolio companies for Oakwood have an outstanding management team, industry disruptive technology, demonstrated proof of concept and have typically completed a first round of institutional venture financing. For more information, please visit [www.oakwoodmedical.com](http://www.oakwoodmedical.com).

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