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**Watson-Marlow enhances its aseptic filling and capping machine range
through acquisition of Flexicon A/S**

Watson-Marlow, the world's leading peristaltic pump manufacturer, has acquired Danish manufacturer of peristaltic aseptic filling systems, Flexicon A/S, through its parent company Spirax-Sarco Engineering. The DKK141m/€18.9m deal will enable Watson-Marlow to enhance its product offering and to strengthen its already dominant presence in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors worldwide.

Flexicon has been marketing aseptic filling and capping systems, featuring peristaltic pumps, to pharmaceutical and biotech companies for the past 22 years. The company's product portfolio ranges from stand-alone units for hand filling, semi-automatic systems, to fully automatic filling, stoppering and capping machines. The fully automatic systems are customised to fit any container, be it a vial, bottle, test tube or non-self-standing micro-tube.

Watson-Marlow is the world's largest manufacturer of peristaltic tube pumps for biotech, pharmaceutical and process applications with the widest range of pumps, pumpheads and tubing available for end-users and OEMs. Watson-Marlow pumps improve productivity, eliminate downtime and minimise maintenance. As the pumped fluid does not come into contact with the pump itself - only with the tube – Watson-Marlow pumps are particularly adapted to pharmaceutical and biotechnology processes, where sterility and a high degree of precision are paramount.

Mike Sullivan, marketing manager Watson-Marlow comments: "Flexicon has a product portfolio that complements and bolsters our existing range of peristaltic pumps. They will add complete aseptic filling and capping systems, from laboratory benchtop to clinical trial scale, to the Watson-Marlow range which includes dispensers. The acquisition will boost our

competitive edge in pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors and will enable us to increase our market share.”

The deal also includes full ownership of Flexicon’s distribution company for the US, Flexicon America Inc.

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Notes to editors

Watson-Marlow Bredel is the largest manufacturer of tube and hose pumps in the world, with over one million pumps sold.

Watson-Marlow Bredel pumps have no valves, seals or glands, and the fluid contacts only the bore of an elastomeric hose or tube. Because they are simple to install, easy to operate and quick to maintain, they are the world’s fastest-growing pump type for flows from microlitres to 80 cubic metres an hour and pressures up to 16 bar.

Watson-Marlow Alitea, which was acquired by the Group in 2004, adds further competencies in the area of high precision, low-flow pumps for OEM applications.

Part of the Spirax-Sarco Engineering Group, Watson-Marlow Bredel Pumps is an international operation based in Falmouth, Cornwall, UK. Watson-Marlow Pumps has offices in Belgium, Brazil, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Malaysia, the Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden and the USA.