

Press Release

Zug, 17 December 2012

Vivacta sold to major pharmaceutical company for USD 90 million

HBM Healthcare Investments announced today that Vivacta Limited, a privately held point-of-care diagnostic company in the portfolio, has been acquired by Novartis (SIX: NOVN; NYSE: NVS) for a total consideration of USD 90 million, subject to post-closing adjustments. This acquisition follows a successful collaborative relationship to assess Vivacta's piezofilm technology in the new area of near-patient drug monitoring.

HBM Healthcare Investments invested a total of GBP 4.1 million in Vivacta since November 2007 and owns 17 percent of the company. The transaction increases the net asset value (NAV) per share by CHF 0.79 (+1.3%).

Vivacta Limited is a medical diagnostic company developing proprietary sensors and readers for rapid, point-of-care (PoC) testing. The company is applying piezofilm technology to achieve extremely high sensitivity and wide dynamic range for a new generation of diagnostic products adapted to near-patient testing and has generated an independent intellectual property position comprising over 15 patent families. For more information please visit <http://www.vivacta.com>.

For further information, please contact Dr. Andreas Wicki, tel.: +41 41 768 11 08, andreas.wicki@hbmhealthcare.com

Profile of HBM Healthcare Investments Ltd

HBM Healthcare Investments invests in the healthcare sector. The Company holds and manages an international portfolio of some twenty five promising companies in the biotechnology/human medicine, medical technology and diagnostics sectors. Many of these companies have their lead products already available on the market, or at an advanced stage of development. The focus of investment is on follow-on financing for existing portfolio companies. These portfolio companies are closely tracked and actively guided on their strategic directions. This is what makes HBM

NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION IN THE USA, CANADA, JAPAN OR AUSTRALIA

HBM Healthcare Investments

Healthcare Investments an interesting alternative to investing in big pharma and biotech companies. HBM Healthcare Investments has an international shareholder base and is listed on SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker: HBMN).

Disclaimer

This media release does not constitute an issue prospectus within the meaning of Art. 652a or Art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations, a listing prospectus in the sense of the SIX Swiss Exchange Listing Rules or a securities prospectus as defined in the German Securities Prospectus Act (Wertpapierprospektgesetz). Publication is for information purposes only and constitutes neither an offer to sell nor an invitation to buy or subscribe for securities. This media release and the information it contains must not be distributed or forwarded to or within the United States of America (USA) or to US persons (including legal entities) or publications with a general circulation in the USA. This media release does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase any securities in the USA. The securities of HBM Healthcare Investments have not been registered under United States securities legislation and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the USA or to US persons without prior registration or the corresponding exemption from the registration requirements of US securities legislation.