

Wockhardt launches three new products in three weeks, in the United States

Mumbai, June 21, 2011

On June 20, 2011, Pharmaceutical and biotechnology major Wockhardt received final approval from the United States Food & Drug Administration (US FDA) for marketing the 250mg, 500mg and 750mg tablets of Levofloxacin, which is used for treating a broad spectrum of bacterial infections. Levofloxacin is a generic version of Levaquin®, marketed in the United States by Ortho Mcneil (Johnson & Johnson). Wockhardt launched the product on the same day.

“After Donepezil tablets on May 31st and Venlafaxine extended-release capsules on June 1st, this is our third new product launch in the United States, within the past twenty-one days”, said Wockhardt Chairman Habil Khorakiwala. “Each of these products was launched on the date the generic market opportunity opened. While business on the existing products has been growing, it is the steady infusion of new products that has enabled us to put our US business on a path of rapid growth”, he further added.

Donepezil, a generic version of Eisai's brand Aricept®, is amongst the most widely used drugs in treating Alzheimer's disease, incidences of which are rapidly increasing the world over due to a steady increase in aging population.

Venlafaxine extended release capsule, a generic version of Pfizer's Effexor® XR, is one the most widely used antidepressant drugs. The product is a capsule containing specially designed pellets to extend their release over 24 hours and requires specialised technology and manufacturing capability.

According to IMS, the combined brand sales of all three products, in the United States market, is over \$ 6 billion.

Wockhardt is one of the few companies with end-to-end integrated capabilities for its products, starting with manufacture of the oral and sterile API's, the dose forms and marketing through the wholly-owned subsidiary in the US, enabling the company to capture maximum value.

About Wockhardt

Wockhardt is a high technology global pharmaceuticals and biotechnology major with innovative multi-disciplinary research and development programmes. It has 5 research centres and 21 world-class manufacturing plants in India, USA, UK, France and Ireland. Wockhardt has a multi-ethnic workforce of over 6500 people from 14 different nationalities.