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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Halifax Drug Company Inks Distribution Deal with Japanese Firm

January 9, 2006, Halifax, Nova Scotia – Origin BioMed Inc., a manufacturer of over-the-counter topical drug products, recently signed a distribution deal for its lead product Neuragen®, with SciTrove Inc. of Tokyo, Japan. Neuragen® is a topical product which provides rapid relief for the nerve pain caused by diabetes, shingles or other neuropathic conditions. Neuragen® targets the \$4 billion worldwide neuropathic pain market.

According to Wayne Miller, Origin's Director of Marketing and Sales, "SciTrove Inc. is a marketing and distributing company for products in the field of life sciences, and they will market and distribute Neuragen® to health care clinics and direct to consumer channels across the country."

Miller adds, "We have an issued Japanese patent for Neuragen®, and SciTrove offers us the best opportunity to conduct a nationwide marketing campaign. Being an indigenous business area due to its language barrier, distribution structure, and commercial custom, doing business in Japan is best done with the assistance of a Japanese based company".

Japan, with the third-largest economy in the world after the US and China, has a population of 127 million. According to the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (www.mhlw.go.jp), about 7.4 million people in Japan are suspected of having diabetes.

About 60% to 70% of people with diabetes have mild to severe forms of nervous system damage (www.diabetes.org). The results of such damage include impaired sensation or pain in the feet or hands and other nerve problems. Almost 50% of people with diabetes aged 40 years or older have impaired sensation in the feet (i.e., at least one area that lacks feeling). Neuragen® has provided relief for up to 70% of users in clinical trials.

A recent report by the International Diabetes Federation (www.idf.org) stated that "Diabetes is fast becoming the epidemic of the 21st century." New data suggest the number of people living with diabetes will skyrocket to almost 400 million people, or 7% of the world's population, within 20 years. Diabetes currently affects 246 million people worldwide, up from 30 million only two decades ago, with 23 million of these living in the US. As much as 21% of the US population aged 60 years or older is estimated to have diabetes. Recent data suggests an American child born in 2000 stands a one in three chance of being diagnosed with diabetes in his or her lifetime. More than 2.3 million Canadians have diabetes. By the end of the decade, this number is expected to rise to 3 million.

Miller concludes, "In addition to our activities in Canada, the US, and Japan, we are looking at other overseas opportunities. We are exploring relationships in the Middle East, Brazil and China."

About Origin BioMed:

Origin BioMed Inc., Halifax, Canada, is an innovative biotechnology company currently expanding the markets for its exclusive pain relief, skin and lip care drugs, and supplement products. www.originbiomed.com

About SciTrove Inc:

SciTrove Inc. is a marketing and distributing company for products in the field of life sciences. Their main suppliers are foreign companies which seek penetration and expansion in the Japanese market. www.scitrove.co.jp/en/index.html

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