



SHARP CLINICAL SERVICES HAS INCREASED CAPACITY AND THROUGHPUT OF CAPSULE FILLING WITH ITS NEWLY ACQUIRED PLANETA 50 MACHINE

(Phoenixville, PA – August 11, 2015) Sharp Clinical Services has significantly increased its capability to fill capsules for the pharmaceutical industry with the acquisition of MG America's Planeta 50 continuous capsule filling machine. The Planeta 50 has the capability to fill capsules with powder, pellets, tablets or micro-tablets at a rate of up to 50,000 capsules per hour as well as offering an in-process weight control system. By adding the Planeta 50 to its other means of encapsulation, Sharp can now fill capsules ranging from a few hundred capsules (for preclinical or early Phase 1 studies) to hundreds of thousands of capsules (for larger scale Phase 3 studies and beyond).



Planeta 50

Commenting on the recent acquisition, Dr. Frank Santillo, Senior Director of Research at Sharp Clinical Services noted, *"The Planeta provides a radical change to the way we can produce capsule products for our customers. There are 2 features especially that distinguish the Planeta from the other encapsulation machines – an in-process weight control system and a Universal Tablet Feeder."* These 2 features are uniquely important for capsule production in the clinical phases."

- The built-in 100% NETT WEIGHT Control System of the Planeta 50 allows Sharp to monitor and control the "net" weight of each filled capsule with individual dosator monitoring. Those capsules not meeting customer specifications are automatically rejected. With this monitoring capability Sharp's clinical customers are assured that every dose is accurate.



Automatic tablet discharge

- With the Planeta's Universal Tablet Feeding unit, Sharp is able to more quickly and cost effectively provide overencapsulation, one of the significant clinical production techniques offered by Sharp to its customers. As per Dr. Santillo, *"Overencapsulation is a technique of blinding drug products in a placebo controlled study so that neither the patient nor the physician knows if a placebo or active is being given. Traditional approaches to overencapsulation production are either manual (a slow and inefficient process) or machine produced (typically requiring tooling for each tablet shape involved in a study). Tooling costs can be significant and more critically, the delivery time for tooling from the tooling vendor can be up to 9 weeks. The Planeta that we purchased has a Universal Tablet Feeding Unit. For a given capsule size, the Universal Tablet Feeder allows ANY shape tablet to be dosed in a given capsule*



Universal Tablet Feeder



size, thus eliminating the cost of custom tooling to the customer and the more importantly, eliminating the delay.”

The Planeta is one of several valuable tools Sharp Clinical Services utilizes to provide a high quality product to the customer in a very efficient and timely fashion.

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ABOUT SHARP CLINICAL SERVICES

Sharp Clinical Services serves the global pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries with clinical trial materials support, services and complete project management. From pre-formulation to global logistics and distribution, its integrated offerings are aimed at helping its customers achieve speed-to-market. Sharp’s services bridge drug discovery with the manufacture of Clinical Trial Material with the speed and precision needed to accelerate market entry and drive profitability.

Sharp Clinical Services is a division of Sharp Packaging Services, a UDG Healthcare company. UDG Healthcare plc is a leading international provider of services to healthcare manufacturers and pharmaceutical retailers, with operations in 20 countries including the US, Canada, the UK and countries throughout Europe as well as Japan and Brazil. It has approximately 8,500 employees across its global footprint and revenues in excess of €2billion annually.

High resolution electronic images accompanied this release.