



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**PRESS RELEASE**  
April 4, 2008

**ANGIOTECH ANNOUNCES COMMERCIAL LAUNCH OF COOK MEDICAL'S ZILVER® PTX™  
DRUG-ELUTING PERIPHERAL STENT IN NEW ZEALAND**

VANCOUVER, BC, April 4, 2008 – Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP), a global specialty pharmaceutical and medical device company, announced today that the first New Zealand patient was treated with Cook Medical Inc.'s Zilver® PTX™ drug-eluting peripheral stent in December 2007. A second patient was treated in February 2008. The Zilver PTX is the world's first drug-eluting stent for peripheral arterial disease (PAD) and was recently released for sale in certain regions worldwide including New Zealand.

Under the terms of its 1997 License Agreement with Cook, Angiotech is entitled to receive royalty payments upon the commercial sale of paclitaxel-eluting peripheral vascular stent products, including the Zilver PTX.

“Building on the success of our paclitaxel-eluting coronary stents, it is rewarding to see how our technology continues to be leveraged in other vascular indications. We hope that the Zilver PTX may provide a more long term treatment option for patients who suffer from peripheral arterial disease,” said Dr. William Hunter, President and CEO of Angiotech.

The Zilver PTX is currently undergoing multiple clinical trials in the U.S., Japan, and the EU to assess product safety and efficacy.

**About Zilver PTX**

Cook Medical's Zilver PTX, a self-expanding nitinol stent, uses a proprietary, polymer-free technology to coat the device with paclitaxel, an antiproliferative drug that has been used successfully to reduce the risk of re-narrowing of arteries following angioplasty. In many cases, PAD patients who have been treated with balloon angioplasty and stenting experience restenosis, or re-narrowing of the arteries, over time and must undergo more invasive treatment such as bypass surgery to reopen the arteries. The Zilver PTX trials will determine whether the combination of the stent and paclitaxel will keep arteries open over time.

**About Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD)**

Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) affects blood vessels that lead from the heart to other areas of the body, such as the legs, feet and kidneys. When the blood vessels become blocked due to the build-up of fatty deposits, blood circulation is restricted. Untreated, PAD results in pain when walking and can lead to gangrene and amputation.

**Note on Forward Looking Statements**

Statements contained in this press release that are not based on historical fact, including without limitation statements containing the words “believes,” “may,” “plans,” “will,” “estimate,” “continue,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “expects” and similar expressions, constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and constitute “forward-looking information” within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws. All such statements are made pursuant to the “safe harbor” provisions of applicable securities legislation. Forward-looking statements may involve, but are not limited to, comments with respect to our strategies or future actions, our targets, expectations for our financial condition and the results of, or outlook for, our operations, research development and product and drug development. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, events or developments to be materially different from any future results, events or developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Many such risks, uncertainties and other factors are taken into account as part of our assumptions underlying these forward-looking statements and include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions, both nationally and in the regions in which we operate; market demand; technological changes that could impact our existing products or our ability to develop and commercialize future products; competition; existing governmental regulations and changes in, or the failure to comply with, governmental regulations; adverse results or

unexpected delays in drug discovery and clinical development processes; decisions, and the timing of decisions, made by health regulatory agencies regarding approval of our technology and products; the requirement for substantial funding to conduct research and development and to expand commercialization activities or consummate acquisitions; the accuracy of our estimations of the size of the market, and the potential market, for our products in specific disease areas; sales numbers and future guidance publicly provided by Boston Scientific Corporation regarding sales of their paclitaxel-eluting coronary stent products; and any other factors that may affect performance. In addition, our business is subject to certain operating risks that may cause the actual results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements in this report to differ materially from our actual results. These operating risks include: our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; our ability to successfully complete preclinical and clinical development of our products; changes in business strategy or development plans; our failure to obtain patent protection for discoveries; loss of patent protection resulting from third party challenges to our patents; commercialization limitations imposed by patents owned or controlled by third parties; our ability to obtain rights to technology from licensors; liability for patent claims and other claims asserted against us; our ability to obtain and enforce timely patent and other intellectual property protection for our technology and products; the ability to enter into, and to maintain, corporate alliances relating to the development and commercialization of our technology and products; market acceptance of our technology and products; our ability to successfully manufacture, market and sell our products; the ability of Boston Scientific Corporation to successfully manufacture, market and sell their paclitaxel-eluting coronary stent products; the continued availability of capital to finance our activities; our ability to achieve the financial benefits expected as a result of the acquisition of American Medical Instruments Holdings, Inc. (“AMI”); and any other factors referenced in our annual information form and other filings with the applicable Canadian securities regulatory authorities or the SEC. **Given these uncertainties, assumptions and risk factors, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. We disclaim any obligation to update any such factors or to publicly announce the result of any revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this press release to reflect future results, events or developments.**

Zilver<sup>®</sup> PTX<sup>™</sup> are trademarks of Cook Medical.

### **About Angiotech**

Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a global specialty pharmaceutical and medical device company with over 1,500 dedicated employees. Angiotech discovers, develops and markets innovative treatment solutions for diseases or complications associated with medical device implants, surgical interventions and acute injury. To find out more about Angiotech (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP), please visit our website at [www.angiotech.com](http://www.angiotech.com).

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