



FINAL PRESS RELEASE

March 9, 2009

ANGIOTECH ANNOUNCES POSITIVE RESULTS FROM BIO-SEAL™ CLINICAL STUDY

VANCOUVER, BC, March 9, 2009 – Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP) today announced positive clinical study results for its Bio-Seal™ Lung Biopsy Tract Plug System at the Society of Interventional Radiologists Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego, CA. The trial assessed the safety and efficacy of Bio-Seal in patients undergoing lung biopsy procedures and demonstrated a statistically significant clinical benefit in the group receiving BioSeal.

“We are extremely pleased that the Bio-Seal treatment arm hit the primary end point of clinical success,” said Dr. William Hunter, President and CEO of Angiotech. “These results indicate that Bio-Seal improves the existing technology used to diagnose lung cancer by significantly reducing the rates of pneumothorax.”

The purpose of this clinical study was to assess the safety and efficacy of an expanding hydrogel plug in reducing pneumothorax rates associated with CT-guided lung biopsy. The prospective, randomized, controlled clinical study enrolled and randomized 339 investigational patients at 15 different investigational sites. Inspiratory upright chest x-rays were performed at 30 to 60 minutes, 24 hours and 30 days after treatment. The Bio-Seal treatment arm hit the primary end point of clinical success, absence of pneumothorax at each time period. Based on the per-protocol population, clinical success rate was 85% using Bio-Seal and 69% in the control group. This difference was statistically significant ($p=0.002$). Although not powered for statistical analysis, positive trends were also observed for Bio-Seal subjects as compared to the control group in various secondary endpoints, including fewer Bio-Seal subjects admitted to the hospital for pneumothoraces (9.4% vs. 13.6%), fewer chest tube placements in Bio-Seal patients (3.5% vs. 10.7%), and fewer additional chest x-rays required in Bio-Seal patients (0.6% vs. 5.3%).

Angiotech is the worldwide manufacturer and distributor of the Bio-Seal Lung Biopsy Tract Plug System, which has already received CE Mark approval and is currently marketed and sold in the EU.

About BioSeal™ Lung Biopsy Tract Plug System

Bio-Seal is a novel technology designed to reduce the incidence of post-operative pneumothorax (collapsed lung) in patients who undergo lung biopsy procedures. The technology involves the placement of an expanding hydrogel plug along the biopsy needle track during the procedure, closing off the track to subsequent influx of air into the chest during respiration after the biopsy needle is withdrawn. The seal is airtight and the plug is absorbed into the body after healing of the puncture site has occurred.

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,” “estimates,” “continues,” “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 “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 objectives and priorities for 2009 and beyond, our strategies or future actions, our targets, expectations for our financial condition and the results of, or outlook for, our operations, research, development, 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 pre-clinical and clinical product development processes; adverse findings related to the safety and/or efficacy of our products or products sold by our partners; 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 manufacturing and commercialization activities or consummate acquisitions; 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 press release to differ materially from our actual results. These operating risks include: our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; our ability to successfully complete pre-clinical 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 continued availability of capital to finance our activities; and any other factors referenced in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and applicable Canadian regulatory authorities. For a more thorough discussion of the risks associated with our business, see the "Risk Factors" section in our annual report for the year ended December 31, 2007 filed with the SEC on Form 40-F and our quarterly report for the three months ended September 30, 2008 filed with the SEC on Form 10-Q.

Given these uncertainties, assumptions and risk factors, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, 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.

©2009 Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Bio-Seal™ is a trademark of Medical Device Technologies, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

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.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

DeDe Sheel, Investor Relations and Corporate Communications
Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
(415) 293-4412
dede.sheel@fdashtonpartners.com