



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Artisan Pharma, Inc. And A-Bio Pharma Pte Ltd. Announce Strategic Manufacturing Alliance on ART-123**

**Waltham, Mass, and Singapore, September 18, 2007** – Artisan Pharma, Inc. and A-Bio Pharma Pte Ltd. today jointly announced that they have finalized a strategic and mutually exclusive manufacturing relationship on the process development, scale-up and manufacture of ART-123, a recombinant protein for the treatment of DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation) in sepsis. A-Bio will undertake the various development and validation activities necessary to ensure further clinical development and commercial supply of ART-123 for Artisan, and, in return, Artisan will enter into a preferential and long term supply agreement with A-Bio. Specific terms of the relationship were not disclosed.

Commenting on the agreement, Jeffrey D. Wager, M.D., President and CEO of Artisan, said, “This agreement is important to us for two reasons. First, we are committed to ensuring safe and consistent supply of ART-123 throughout our territory. The relationship with A-Bio accomplishes this objective to a very high standard. Secondly, this alliance enables us to focus more of our financial and human resources on ART-123 clinical development through strategic outsourcing of ART-123 manufacturing.”

George Wang, Sc.D., Managing Director of A-Bio Pharma Pte Ltd., continued, “A-Bio is pleased to enter into this strategic partnership to advance a high-potential therapeutic like ART-123 and produce quality drug products, leveraging on A-Bio's capabilities in process development and Current Good Manufacturing Practice (CGMP) production. Bio\*One Capital, a common investor in A-Bio and Artisan, has been instrumental in bringing together the two companies, aligned in our long-term objectives and creating this strategic partnership.”

### About ART-123

ART-123 is a novel, recombinant, soluble thrombomodulin for the treatment of DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation) in sepsis. ART-123 uniquely targets both anti-coagulant and systemic anti-inflammatory pathways, and holds great promise as a self-regulating treatment of DIC in sepsis. A regulatory submission for approval of ART-123 in the treatment of DIC has been filed in Japan. Artisan holds all development and commercial rights for ART-123 outside of Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea, and has initiated an 800 patient, multinational, Phase 2b trial in DIC in sepsis.

### About Artisan Pharma, Inc.

Artisan Pharma is a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to bringing best-in-class acute care therapeutics to patients. Artisan's strategy is to acquire clinical stage or marketed drugs and develop them for markets with clear unmet medical needs. [www.artisanpharma.net](http://www.artisanpharma.net)

About A-Bio Pharma Pte Ltd.

A-Bio Pharma Pte Ltd, one of Asia's leading biologics contract manufacturers, provides a full range of manufacturing solutions, including process development, manufacturing scale-up, CGMP production and regulatory compliance. Within 3 years of operation, A-Bio has established a strong track record and its customers include GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals and Novo Nordisk A/S. [www.a-bio.com](http://www.a-bio.com)

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