

SORIN GROUP ANNOUNCES U.S. FDA CLEARANCE OF NEWEST GENERATION HEART LUNG-MACHINE

After a successful European launch in 2009, Sorin Group receives U.S. market clearance for the C5 Heart-Lung Machine.

Milan, February 18, 2010 – Sorin Group, (Reuters Code: SORN.MI), a global company and a leader in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, announced today the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clearance of its newest generation **C5** Heart-Lung Machine (HLM).

A Heart-Lung Machine is a sophisticated piece of medical equipment that provides blood oxygenation and circulation to organs and the brain while the patient's heart and lungs are temporarily stopped during a cardiothoracic surgical procedure.

Sorin's **C5** HLM is the culmination of over 25 years of experience in extracorporeal perfusion system design and manufacturing.

The **C5** HLM builds on the state-of-the-art technology and proven interface of Sorin's **S5** industry-standard HLM, while being lighter in weight and more compact. The **C5** has excellent manoeuvrability and a well thought-out, logical structure, functional ergonomic design and reliable safety systems. Its solid, brushed stainless steel housing reflects the product's high quality.

With the **C5** HLM, Sorin obtained FDA clearance within one month of submission, the shortest clearance time for a heart lung machine on company record. The introduction of the **C5** to the US market will further strengthen Sorin Group's world leading position in the cardiopulmonary bypass market.

"The **C5** HLM provides another example of Sorin Group's commitment to developing solutions that meet the needs of both patients and clinicians. Our focus on delivering product and service excellence helps maintain our worldwide leading position", said Michel Darnaud, President, Cardiopulmonary Business Unit and Intercontinental, Sorin Group.

The **C5** HLM will be showcased for the first time in the USA at CREF – Cardiothoracic Surgery Symposium – in Newport Beach, CA on March 4-7, 2010.

About Sorin Group

Sorin Group (www.sorin.com) is a global, medical device company and a leader in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases. The Company develops, manufactures and markets medical technologies for cardiac surgery and for the treatment of cardiac rhythm disorders. With 3,500 employees worldwide, the Group focuses on three major therapeutic areas that include: cardiopulmonary bypass (extracorporeal circulation and autotransfusion systems), cardiac rhythm management, and heart valve repair and replacement. Every year, over 1 million patients are treated with Sorin Group devices in more than 80 countries.

For more information, please visit: www.sorin.com, or contact:

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