

EU COMMISSION CLEARS MARS' ACQUISITION OF ANICURA

AniCura to join Mars Petcare family of veterinary business upon closing

BRUSSELS and STOCKHOLM (October 29, 2018) -- Mars Petcare today announced that antitrust clearance from the European Commission has been obtained subject to the divestiture of AniCura's procurement platform VetFamily, and that the acquisition is expected to be successfully closed by year end.

Mars first announced their intention for Mars to acquire the Stockholm-based business in June 2018. Upon closing, AniCura will join Mars Petcare's family of veterinary care businesses alongside BANFIELD™, BLUEPEARL™, PET PARTNERS™, VCA™ and Linnaeus, and will continue to pursue the expansion of its brand while maintaining the same high quality of medicine it is known for.

Since the acquisition was first announced, AniCura has continued to add high-quality practices across Europe. Today, the group has more than 4,500 employees, of which one third are veterinarians, and 225 animal hospitals and clinics in over seven countries, primarily in its key markets of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and the Netherlands. Together, Mars Petcare and AniCura will benefit from each other's best practice and leading capabilities, improving clinical practice and continuing to advance the veterinary profession in both North America and Europe.

"Since its beginnings in 2011, AniCura has grown to become a role model for high-quality, specialized veterinary care for companion animals in Europe. At Mars Petcare we believe that high quality veterinary care can only be delivered by our passionate veterinarians and nurses committed to making a difference in a pet's life," said Alejandro Bernal, President, International Business Development, Mars Veterinary Health Group. "As we move to complete the announced transaction that will see AniCura join the family of Mars Veterinary Businesses, we are proud to welcome the 4,500 dedicated AniCura team members as our newest Associates. We value the incredible work they do and, together, we will continue to live our purpose – A BETTER WORLD FOR PETS."

Peter Dahlberg, CEO of AniCura, added: "Our highly-skilled people and the independence we offer them have been key to AniCura's success to date. As a member of the family of Mars Petcare veterinary health

businesses, AniCura will continue to be a values driven company, with the mission to be Europe’s leading provider of high quality companion animal care.”

J.P. Morgan Securities plc acted as financial adviser and Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP and Cederquist acted as legal counsel to Mars.

About Mars Petcare

[Mars Petcare](#) is a diverse and growing business with 75,000 Associates across 50+ countries dedicated to one purpose: A BETTER WORLD FOR PETS. With 75 years of experience, our portfolio of almost 50 brands serves the health and nutrition needs of the world’s pets – including brands [PEDIGREE](#)®, [WHISKAS](#)®, [ROYAL CANIN](#)®, [NUTRO](#)™, [GREENIES](#)™, [SHEBA](#)®, [CESAR](#)®, [IAMS](#)™ and [EUKANUBA](#)™ as well as The [WALTHAM Centre for Pet Nutrition](#) which has advanced research in the nutrition and health of pets for over 50 years. Mars Petcare is also a leading veterinary health provider through a network of over 2,000 pet hospitals including [BANFIELD](#)™, [BLUEPEARL](#)™, [PET PARTNERS](#)™, [VCA](#)™ and [Linnaeus](#). We’re also active in innovation and technology for pets, with [WISDOM PANEL](#)™ genetic health screening and DNA testing for dogs, the [WHISTLE](#)™ GPS dog tracker, and [LEAP VENTURE STUDIO](#) accelerator and [COMPANION FUND](#)™ programs that drive innovation and disruption in the pet care industry. As a [family business](#) and guided by our principles, we are privileged with the flexibility to fight for what we believe in – and we choose to fight for: A BETTER WORLD FOR PETS.

About AniCura

AniCura is a family of well-known animal hospitals and clinics specialised in veterinary care for companion animals. Born out of the idea that sharing resources can create opportunities for better veterinary care, the company was established in 2011 as the first merger of companion animal hospitals in the Nordic region. Today, AniCura is a role model within specialised veterinary care and a valued partner for pet owners and referring veterinarians across Europe. AniCura offers a wide range of high quality medical services covering preventive and basic health care as well as advanced and specialised diagnostics, internal medicine, intensive care, surgery and orthopaedics. AniCura also provides rehabilitation, physiotherapy and dietary advice and offers selected pet food and care products. AniCura provides modern, high-quality veterinary care for pets at 225 European locations and creates peace of

mind for pet owners through excellent access and patient safety. Every year, AniCura's 4,500 passionate veterinary professionals attend to more than two million companion animal patients. AniCura is a trusted training and referral body. For information on how AniCura is working to shape the future of veterinary care, please visit our website www.anicuragroup.com

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