



Healthscope

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**HEALTHSCOPE ENTERS INTO AGREEMENT FOR SALE OF ITS HUMAN AND
COMMERCIAL PATHOLOGY BUSINESSES IN QUEENSLAND, NEW SOUTH WALES AND
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

16 May 2012

Healthscope today announces it has entered into agreements for the sale of its human and commercial pathology businesses in Queensland, New South Wales (including ACT) and Western Australia to Sonic Healthcare Ltd (Sonic). Healthscope will retain and continue to operate its pathology businesses in Victoria, South Australia and Northern Territory as part of its core business.

Under the proposed sale, Sonic will acquire the businesses through three separate transactions for a total purchase price of A\$100 million. The transactions are subject to ACCC and regulatory approvals.

In commenting on the proposed sale, Mr Robert Cooke, Healthscope's Managing Director, said "Over the past months, Healthscope has conducted a strategic review of our Australian pathology business. In view of our capital projects pipeline and growth prospects in other areas of Healthscope's business, Healthscope has decided to sell its pathology businesses in Queensland, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia.

"Combining Healthscope's businesses in these states with Sonic's existing business will ensure continued strong commitment to quality and service which is important to both Healthscope and Sonic. Healthscope will work with Sonic to ensure a smooth transition process.

In relation to Healthscope's remaining pathology businesses, Mr Cooke said "Healthscope continues to see a strong future for its Victorian, South Australian and Northern Territory pathology businesses. By focussing our efforts and resources in these regions, we are confident that we can further improve our market position by strengthening the delivery of quality pathology services.

"Our commitment to growing our remaining business in Australia, as well as our offshore operations, is demonstrated by our successful tender wins in Bendigo and Epping (Victoria), Canterbury (New Zealand), and the acquisition of Medlab South in the South Island of New Zealand.

The sale of Healthscope's human and commercial pathology businesses in Queensland, New South Wales (including ACT) and Western Australia to Sonic is expected to be completed by August 2012.

For further enquiries:

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