



## **STIRLING PRODUCTS ENTERS INTO MAJOR JOINT VENTURE IN SOUTH AFRICA AND AFRICA**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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- **Joint Venture entered into**
- **Dr Hinner Köster appointed as a Stirling Advisor**

Australian healthcare company Stirling Products (ASX:STI) advises that the Company has entered into the first of its planned global joint ventures. A significant joint venture has been entered into with Animate Animal Health ("Animate") of South Africa to register where required, commercialise and distribute the company's patented animal growth promotion products based upon the Company's single enantiomer beta agonist, R-salbutamol throughout South Africa and all other African countries.

The incorporated joint venture operating company in which Stirling Products will hold a 50% shareholding and joint Board representation will be known as Stanimate Pty Ltd and will also be marketing the Company's patented ProVale beta glucan products.

The Stanimate joint venture will also have all the rights to the Company's patented human obesity applications of the R-salbutamol drug candidate throughout Africa.

Following the recent change of management at Stirling Products, the Company's Managing Director, Mr Peter Boonen, approached Animate and spent a week in South Africa negotiating the Joint Venture and conducting meetings with a number of potential significant future customers for the joint venture products. Agreement to the Joint Venture was concluded this week and is conditional to the Company's Shareholders approving the resolutions required to be passed to enable the company to complete its fully committed capital raisings and that are to be considered at a Stirling Shareholders Meeting to be held on 29 May 2009.

Under the terms of the joint venture Animate in South Africa will immediately (subject to passing of resolutions at Shareholders Meeting) provide all office premises, staffing, establishment and product registration costs with an R-



salbutamol pre-registration regulatory trial on approximately 360 head of cattle being scheduled to commence shortly and first joint venture product sales expected by year-end. All Stanimate establishment funds provided by Animate are repayable from future Stanimate operating profits.

Animate, founded approximately five years ago, has already captured a significant share of the poultry, feedlot and pig industry business in South Africa and is generating income of around 100 million Rand and growing rapidly. "This joint venture opportunity with Stirling Products will position our current business base for some serious growth throughout not only South Africa where we are already well established but also throughout the other African countries with our unique patent protected products." said Hugo Hattingh, Animate's Founding and Managing Director.

Animate's recently appointed technical director and partner, Dr Hinner Köster, is a world renowned agriculturalist specialising in animal nutrition and health. Dr Köster received his B.Sc. Agric. in 1986, his B.Sc. Agric. (Hons.) in 1987 and his M.Sc. Agric. (Animal Nutrition) in 1990 at the University of Pretoria. In 1995 he completed his Ph.D. in Ruminant Nutrition at Kansas State University, USA. He has 40 international and national scientific papers and abstracts and has published more than 200 scientific papers. He remains actively involved in numerous industry scientific research projects in South Africa, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, USA, South America and Australia and has presented 16 papers at international conferences and symposia. He was recently appointed as an adjunct faculty member (extraordinary Professor) at Kansas State University, USA where he serves on various post graduate research committees. Dr Köster still contributes to academic education of South African Animal Scientists by acting as co-supervisor for various M.Sc. and Ph.D. students at most of the major Animal Science faculties as well as Onderstepoort. He further is a member of the American Society of Animal Science, South African Society of Animal Science (Council member) and South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions.

Dr Köster played a major role at the Animal Feed Manufacturers Association (AFMA) and acted in various capacities on the Board of Directors, Technical and Liaison Committee and Congress and Editorial Committees. In 2005, he was elected chairman of the AFMA board of directors, a position he held until 2007, and also served as chairman on all the different AFMA committees since 2000. During his term at AFMA he was instrumental in initiating and contributing to the

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drafting of various Codes of Practice and a Code of Conduct for the Animal Feed industry.

In 2001, Dr Köster was awarded with the Barney van Niekerk/AFMA Technical Person of the Year award. In July 2007 he was further honoured with the Silver Medal by the South African Society of Animal Science and more recently (September 2008), he was named Agriculturalist of the Year for the Gauteng region.

Dr Köster has agreed to act as an advisor to Stirling Products in all technical matters with specific application to value-added animal health and nutritional products.

Mr Peter Boonen, the Company's Managing Director, stated: "We are absolutely pleased to have concluded the first of our planned major joint ventures for the company. This Stanimate joint venture brings a major commercialisation initiative to the Company in a large and important market, it provides us with the extensive expertise of Hugo Hattingh, who has over 30 years of experience in the intensive animal health industry, and particularly we gain the valuable services of Dr Köster who is internationally recognised as an expert in the field of animal health and nutrition and who has also consented to act as an advisor to the Company in its global and diversified initiatives."

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