



MWI Acquires Assets of Nelson Laboratories

MERIDIAN, ID -- (MARKET WIRE) -- 03/21/11 -- MWI Veterinary Supply, Inc. ("MWI" or "the Company") (NASDAQ: MWIV) announced today that it has completed the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Nelson Laboratories Limited Partnership ("Nelson") for approximately \$7 million.

Founded in 1929, Nelson is a distributor of animal health products to over 1,100 veterinary practices, primarily in the Midwestern United States. Nelson has a distribution center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and had total revenues of approximately \$35 million for its calendar year ended December 31, 2010.

Jim Cleary, President and Chief Executive Officer of MWI, commented, "MWI is pleased to welcome Nelson Laboratories to MWI, and we're delighted to have the opportunity to serve Nelson's customers."

Deborah Olson, Chairman of Nelson Laboratories added: "For the 27 years of my family's ownership we have been proud to serve the veterinary community in the Midwest and feel this transaction is a great thing for our customers and employees going forward. I am confident that the customers of Nelson Laboratories will appreciate the expanded services and product range offered by MWI."

MWI is a leading distributor of animal health products to veterinarians across the United States of America and United Kingdom. Products MWI sells include pharmaceuticals, vaccines, parasiticides, diagnostics, capital equipment, supplies, veterinary pet food and nutritional products. We market these products to veterinarians in both the companion animal and production animal markets. For more information about MWI, please visit our website at www.mwivet.com. For investor relations information please contact Mary Pat Thompson, Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration, and Chief Financial Officer at (208) 955-8930 or email investorrelations@mwivet.com.

Certain statements contained herein that are not descriptions of historical facts are "forward-looking" statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995). Because such statements include risks and uncertainties, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those discussed in filings made by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Many of the factors that will determine the Company's future results are beyond the ability of management to control or predict. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which reflect management's views only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, or to make any other forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Important assumptions and other important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking information include the impact of vendor consolidation on our business; changes in or availability of vendor rebate programs; vendor rebates based upon attaining certain growth goals; changes in the way vendors introduce products to market; exclusivity requirements with certain vendors that may prohibit us from distributing competing products manufactured by other vendors; risks associated with our international operations; transitional challenges associated with acquisitions, including the failure to achieve anticipated synergies; financial risks associated with acquisitions; the impact of general economic trends on our business; the recall of a significant product by one of our vendors; extended shortage or backorder of a significant product by one of our vendors; seasonality; the timing and effectiveness of marketing programs offered by our vendors; the timing of the introduction of new products and services by our vendors; the ability to borrow on our credit line, extend the terms of our credit line or obtain alternative financing on favorable terms or at all; risks from potential increases in variable interest rates; unforeseen litigation; a disruption caused by adverse weather or other natural conditions; inability to ship products to the customer as a result of technological or shipping disruptions; and competition. Other factors include changes in the rate of inflation; changes in state or federal legislation or regulation; the continued safety of the products the Company sells; and changes in the general economy. Investors should also be aware that while we do, from time to time, communicate with securities analysts, it is against our policy to disclose any material non-public information or other confidential commercial information. Accordingly, stockholders should not assume that we agree with any statement or report issued by any analyst irrespective of the content of the statement or report. Furthermore, we have a policy against issuing or confirming financial forecasts or projections issued by others. Thus, to the extent that reports issued by securities analysts contain any projections, forecasts or opinions, such reports are not the responsibility of MWI Veterinary Supply, Inc.

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