

## **Marcus Heppner Becomes New Vice President of Grünenthal's Legal Department**

Aachen, December 2, 2011 – In his position as Vice President Corporate Legal, Marcus Heppner is in charge of the Corporate Legal Department of the internationally operating pain expert Grünenthal. He reports directly to Grünenthal Group CFO & COO Stefan Genten.

Marcus Heppner is succeeding Hans Georg Ziller, who took the helm of the newly established Corporate Affairs Division as Vice President in October of this year and reports directly to Grünenthal Group CEO Dr. Harald F. Stock.

Hans Georg Ziller led the Corporate Legal Department for 21 years, during which he played a major role in internationalizing Grünenthal by acquiring and founding a great number of subsidiaries. Important license and cooperation contracts which now guarantee Grünenthal's future were concluded during this period.

"The Grünenthal executive board is very grateful to Mr. Ziller for having declared his readiness to concentrate on the new challenge of the Corporate Affairs Division at our request. At the same time, we are glad to have gained in Marcus Heppner a new director of the Corporate Legal Department who has the transaction experience we need and is familiar with the challenges of a family-owned company," says Stefan Genten, CFO & COO of the Grünenthal Group.

"Corporate Legal will continue to deal with all of the Grünenthal Group's legal affairs and advise the corporate executive board in all legal and strategic issues. In addition, we will be expanding supra-regional business in Latin America in a targeted manner in order to support the corporate strategy of fully covering the Latin American market," says Marcus Heppner of his future field of activity.

Marcus Heppner has more than ten years of professional experience as a legal counselor, primarily in the pharmaceutical industry. He most recently worked in the Corporate Legal Department of Merck KGaA, where he was in charge of legal assistance of worldwide M&A activities as well as the Corporate Finance division.

### **About the Grünenthal Group**

The Grünenthal Group is an independent, family-owned international re-search based pharmaceutical company headquartered in Aachen, Germany. Building on its unique position in pain, its objective is to become the most patient-centric company and to be a leader in therapy innovation. Al-together, the Grünenthal Group has affiliates in 36 countries worldwide. Grünenthal products are sold in more than 100 countries and approx. 4,900 employees are working for the Grünenthal Group globally. In 2010, Grünenthal reached revenues of about 910 Mio €

More information: [www.grunenthal.com](http://www.grunenthal.com).

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