

### **Pharmaceutical Company Grünenthal is one of the Best Companies to Work For in Europe 2012**

#### **Ireland, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands Singled Out at Prestigious Awards Ceremony in Berlin**

**Aachen, June 20, 2012** – The Grünenthal Group is one of the best employers in Europe. This was the finding reached by the Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Institute, which included four of the Aachen-based pharmaceutical corporation's locations in this year's European list of top-ranking companies. With national successes in Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands and Ireland the Grünenthal Group ranks among Europe's top 25 employers for the first time.

#### **Ceremony at Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Awards in Berlin**

The festive awards ceremony was held on June 19 at the Europe Awards Ceremony at the Axica in Berlin. Tom Coogan, General Manager of the Irish affiliate Grünenthal Pharma Ltd. received the award on behalf of all four winning Grünenthal sites. "We are truly honored to receive this award, particularly as this is our first year to do so. It reflects the dedication and commitment of our employees as they continuously strive for excellence each and every workday", Coogan said.

This praise was reiterated by Heinz-Gerd Suelmann, PhD., Executive Vice President Global Human Resources: "It remains the stated goal of the entire Grünenthal Group to offer our employees a first-class work environment and a unique corporate culture. We want our dedicated and motivated employees to be involved and to be able to play a part in shaping the future of our company – we are working together to become a Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> in every part of the world."

#### **Grünenthal Sites Leave Auditors Convinced**

An annual employee survey and a culture audit by the Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Institute are requirements for participating in the national competitions. Here, external auditors evaluate all of the initiatives and processes which have major influence on the culture at the workplace. Measures in the field of human resources and corporate communications receive special attention during the testing. Only based on these results, a company can then qualify as a Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> in the national competition.

#### **About Grünenthal**

The Grünenthal Group is an independent, family-owned, international research-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 thus to be a leader in therapy innovation.

Grünenthal is one of the last five research-oriented pharmaceutical corporations with headquarters in Germany which sustainably invests in research and development. These investments amounted to about 25 percent of revenues in 2011. Grünenthal's research and

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# GRÜNENTHAL GROUP

## Press Release



development strategy concentrates on select fields of therapy and state-of-the-art technologies. We focus on the intensive search for new ways to treat pain better, more effectively and with fewer side-effects than before.

Altogether, the Grünenthal Group has affiliates in 26 countries worldwide. Grünenthal products are sold in more than 155 countries and today approx. 4,200 employees are working for the Grünenthal Group worldwide. In 2011, Grünenthal achieved revenues of €947 mn.

### **About the Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Institute Europe**

The Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Institute Europe was established in 2001 and first published the list of the “100 Best Workplaces in Europe” on behalf of the European Commission in March 2003. This ranking is created in close cooperation with national associations. The best companies on the national level automatically take part in the “Best Companies to Work for in Europe” competition. In addition to evaluating employers on an annual basis, the Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> Institute also supports companies in increasing their economic achievement potential and improving the quality of their employees’ work life.

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