

## **Cerep today announced that it will be implementing changes to its Management structure in order to focus on strengthening both the commercial and operational responsibilities**

**Paris, France, 4 May 1999** - Cerep SA (Nouveau Marché: CEREP), the French drug discovery Company, today announced that it will be implementing changes to its management structure in order to focus on strengthening both the commercial and operational responsibilities at each of its separate facilities. In addition, Cerep announced that Alain Maiore, Chief Operating Officer, will be leaving the Company.

"There is currently a growing demand for innovative drug discovery solutions within the pharmaceutical industry. This trend is confirmed by an increased demand for the Company's broad range of high-margin pharmacological, chemistry and chemo-informatics services," said Thierry Jean, President and CEO of Cerep. "In order to maintain our leadership as the provider of innovative drug discovery solutions, we have undertaken a series of measures in order to provide senior management at each of our research facilities with increased commercial and operational responsibilities. This is critical to Cerep's international development strategy in terms of efficiency, practicality, flexibility and speed, and will ultimately lead the Company through the next phase of growth and superior value creation."

Dr Jean further added "Alain's experience of the biotechnology industry has been a great asset for Cerep and I would like to thank him for his commitment and contribution in building the Company to its present stage. We wish him well in his future endeavours."

*Cerep is a drug discovery company that focuses on finding new and effective drugs. The Company's mission is to develop integrated technologies and tools to overcome the current obstacles and challenges of the drug discovery process. Cerep assists pharmaceutical companies by incorporating all the facets of innovative technologies for the discovery of novel and effective drugs. In Europe and North America, the Company has developed an extensive R&D capacity in the areas of high-throughput profiling, lead development and screening, high-throughput organic synthesis and computational chemistry. Cerep has a unique business model combining revenue generating drug discovery services with strategic collaborations in drug discovery.*

*Statements included in this press release which are not historical in nature are intended to be, and are hereby identified as, "forward-looking statements" for purposes of the safe harbour provided by Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may be identified by words including "anticipates", "believes", "intends", "estimates", "expects" and similar expressions. The company cautions readers that forward-looking statements, including without limitation those relating to the company's future operations and business prospects, are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Factors that may affect future operations and business prospects include, but are not limited to, clinical and scientific results and developments concerning corporate collaborations and the company's proprietary rights and other factors described in the prospectus relating to the company's recent public offering.*