

Media release

Straumann aligns implant production with slower market growth

Basel, 26 November 2008: Throughout the past decade Straumann has ramped up its global production capabilities to meet the strongly growing demand for dental implants worldwide. Based on market growth in the mid teens and the introduction of its innovative clinically proven products, the company expanded production capacity further in the first half of the current year to cater for continuing dynamic growth. Group net revenue rose 22% in local currencies (17% CHF) in the first six months of 2008 and 11% (6% in CHF) in the third quarter 2008 putting it well ahead of the market.

As reported in October, the severity of the current economic situation has led to an unprecedented slowdown in the growth of the dental implant market. Although Straumann has continued to grow and outperform – despite the challenging circumstances, it is clear that its more recent expansion rate cannot support an organization that has been built up for significantly higher anticipated market growth.

As an immediate measure, the company announced today that it has initiated the process of introducing short-time work in production. The duration of this initiative and the possibility of further measures will obviously depend on market developments in the future, which are difficult to predict.

Straumann is very well positioned in terms of product portfolio, innovation, customer base, global reach and financial solidity. These competitive strengths and the underlying long-term attractiveness of the market make the company optimistic of continued success in the future.

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Concerning forward looking statements

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**About Straumann**

Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, the Straumann Group (SWX: STMN) is a global leader in implant and restorative dentistry and oral tissue regeneration. In collaboration with leading clinics, research institutes and universities, Straumann researches, develops and manufactures dental implants, instruments, prosthetics and tissue regeneration products for use in tooth replacement and restoration solutions or to prevent tooth loss. The Group manufactures implant system components and instruments in Switzerland and the US, CAD/CAM prosthetics in Germany, and dental tissue regeneration products in Sweden. Straumann also offers comprehensive training and services to the dental profession worldwide, including training and education, which is provided in collaboration with the International Team for Implantology (ITI). Altogether, Straumann employs approximately 2200 people worldwide and its products and services are available in more than 60 countries through the Group's 21 distribution subsidiaries and broad network of distribution partners.