

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
NEWS RELEASE  
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**ANGIOTECH PARTNER ANNOUNCES FRENCH REIMBURSEMENT  
FOR TAXUS® LIBERTÉ™  
PACLITAXEL-ELUTING CORONARY STENT SYSTEM**

VANCOUVER, BC , February 15, 2006 – Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP) corporate partner, Boston Scientific (“BSC”) announced today that it has received reimbursement approval from the French government for its TAXUS® Liberté™ paclitaxel-eluting coronary stent system – the world’s first next-generation drug-eluting stent system. The announcement was published yesterday in the official journal of the French government, “Journal Officiel de la République Française.”

As a result of this announcement, the TAXUS Liberté stent system will now be available to patients with coronary artery disease treated in private and public hospitals throughout France.

“Until now, many French patients suffering from coronary artery disease were unable to benefit from the TAXUS Liberté stent system due to the lack of reimbursement,” said Dr. Philippe Brunel, interventional cardiologist at the Nouvelles Cliniques Nantaises, Nantes, France. “The TAXUS Liberté stent system offers cardiologists and patients benefits due to its superior deliverability in addition to the proven long-term efficacy of the TAXUS system. Patients with complex and small vessel disease will particularly benefit from these advanced features.”

“The TAXUS Liberté stent system is specifically designed to improve deliverability and conformability for state-of-the-art clinical stent performance, which will help further improve clinical outcomes,” said Jeff Goodman, President of International for Boston Scientific. “These features should help substantially reinforce the market leadership position of the TAXUS stent system in France.”

The TAXUS Liberté stent system is the world’s first next-generation drug-eluting coronary stent system to incorporate a next-generation stent platform. It is specifically designed for drug delivery and received CE Mark approval in Europe in September 2005.

BSC has a strong record of excellence in drug-eluting stents, supported by a wealth of clinical trial data on the safety and efficacy of the TAXUS stent systems. Recent results from the TAXUS I (four years), TAXUS II (three years), TAXUS IV (three years), and TAXUS VI (two years) studies have demonstrated excellent long-term safety and efficacy with a sustained and robust benefit. Early data from the ATLAS clinical trial and OLYMPIA registry confirmed the safety profile of the TAXUS Liberté stent system.

France has one of the lowest rates of coronary artery disease in Europe, however 28 percent of deaths in French men and 34 percent of deaths in French women are still attributed to this disease. The majority of patients are treated with percutaneous coronary intervention; more than 165,000 stents are implanted annually in private and public French hospitals. Currently, half of the stents used in France are drug-eluting stents such as the TAXUS Liberté stent system.

BSC acquired worldwide exclusive rights from Angiotech to use paclitaxel to coat its coronary stent products and has co-exclusive rights to other vascular and non-vascular products.

### *About Angiotech Pharmaceuticals*

Vancouver-based Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a specialty pharmaceutical company pioneering the combination of pharmaceutical compounds with medical devices and biomaterials to both create novel solutions for poorly addressed disease states and improve surgical outcomes. To find out more about Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP), please visit our website at [www.angiotech.com](http://www.angiotech.com).

*Statements contained herein that are not based on historical or current fact, including without limitation statements containing the words "anticipates," "believes," "may," "continue," "estimate," "expects," and "will" and words of similar import, constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, events or developments to be materially different from any future results, events or developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions, both nationally and in the regions in which the Company operates; technology changes; competition; changes in business strategy or development plans; the ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; existing governmental regulations and changes in, or the failure to comply with, governmental regulations; liability and other claims asserted against the Company; and other factors referenced in the Company's filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or the Canadian securities regulators. Given these uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. The Company does not assume the obligation to update any forward-looking statements.*

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