

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NEWS RELEASE
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ANGIOTECH TO APPEAL UK JUDGMENT REGARDING UK PATENT

UK DECISION AFFECTS ONLY UK PATENT

VANCOUVER, BC, February 24, 2006 – Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP), announced that it intends to appeal a UK trial court decision to revoke Angiotech's UK designation of its European Patent No. 0,706,376. The UK trial court ruled today that Angiotech's UK Patent lacked inventive step in light of certain prior art in a challenge brought by Conor MedSystems (Conor) filed in February 2005. This Patent, which applies to the UK only, is only one of a number in Angiotech's portfolio of patents protecting its pioneering paclitaxel stent technology, which cover the Boston Scientific TAXUS™ stent.

The Angiotech European Patent remains valid and enforceable in the other designated States in Europe, in light of Angiotech's successful defense of the patent at the January 2005 European Patent Office Opposition Division decision which maintained the validity of this Patent, including claims related to stents coated with paclitaxel and a polymeric carrier. The UK decision affects only the UK version of the maintained European Patent.

Angiotech President and CEO William L. Hunter, MD, MSc commented: "This UK decision is contrary to the thorough consideration of the European Patent Office, which after extensive Opposition proceedings, upheld the validity of Angiotech's European counterpart of this UK Patent. We are committed to protecting our intellectual property rights and intend to appeal the UK trial court's judgment."

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 dramatically improve surgical outcomes. To find out more about Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP), please visit our website at 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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