World Courier Expands Storage Capabilities in India as Clinical Trials Boom

In response to increasing demands from global pharmaceutical companies that conduct clinical trials in India, World Courier will almost triple the capacity of its ISO-certified, GMP-compliant investigational storage facility in Bangalore in 2008. The expansion is split into two phases: the first phase was completed at the end of January, and the second phase is set to get underway in April. The facility will remain open for business throughout the construction period.

The delivery of this expanded state-of-the-art temperature-controlled structure to the international research community follows groundbreaking 2004 patent legislation governing the molecular composition of new and existing drugs. Since then, India’s progressive legislation, combined with the country’s widely varied and densely populated demographics, has attracted growing numbers of the pharmaceutical community to a local clinical trial market that is expected to exceed US$1.5 billion in investment by 2010.

Dhananjay Achudan, Country Manager for World Courier (India) Pvt Ltd, a transportation leader in this country for the past decade, said, “Given this highly competitive environment and the complexity of clinical trial shipments, pharmaceutical companies are turning to professional service partners to bring their international studies in as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible. Especially in a country of this size where temperatures can range from +45°C to below 0°C, clients have found that the use of our central climate-controlled storage depot can assure product quality and hasten the regulatory permit process while significantly reducing customs delays.
and transportation costs. The shorter lead times and lower costs realized through the use of our storage facility have brought real value to our clients, without them having to relinquish control of their inventories.”

Staffed by full-time licensed pharmacists, the Bangalore storage facility provides comprehensive logistical solutions for investigational drugs and trial-related materials in a variety of temperature-controlled settings that range from +25°C to –70°C. Services include validated storage areas for drugs, diagnostic kits, and medical devices; round-the-clock access to inventories; transport of all investigational drugs and supplies from the country of origin to the depot; immediate delivery of specified drugs/kits from the depot to in-country locations; drug return/destruction management; and complete logistics chain management. All documentation and materials are fully traceable using CTM-STARSTM, World Courier’s own CFR21-11-compliant monitoring system which allows customers to view their inventories 24/7 via live password-protected Internet feed.

World Courier currently maintains a network of seven investigational drug storage facilities worldwide, with installations in Buenos Aires (Argentina), Sao Paulo (Brazil), Santiago (Chile), Mexico City (Mexico), Lima (Peru), Moscow (Russia), and Bangalore (India). Five additional global locations are expected to be set up in strategic and developing markets later this year, increasing World Courier’s network of temperature-controlled biopharm facilities to 12 worldwide.

About World Courier

Incorporated in 1969 and headquartered in Stamford, Connecticut (USA), World Courier is the largest and most experienced specialty courier service with a network of over 140 company-owned ISO 9001-certified offices operating in 50 countries worldwide. World Courier has set the benchmark for worldwide time-sensitive transportation and is the acknowledged leader in delivering customized solutions and cold chain, value-added services in growth markets such as the biopharmaceutical, automotive, and high-tech industries. Through its company-owned offices and agents, World Courier provides door-to-door, customs-cleared services to more than 220 countries and territories.

In India, the company operates wholly owned offices in Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Mangalore, Chennai, and Bangalore. To meet the logistical needs of biopharm clients, World Courier (India) has also developed a strong network of additional secondary service locations within the country where prominent investigator sites are located. ■

Contact Details:

WorldCourier (India) Private Ltd
Address: Savipraja Enclave
No. 1183/A, 2nd Floor
5th Cross, 9th Main
4th Block, HBR Layout
Bangalore 560043
India
Tel: +91 80 2543 8606
Fax: +91 80 2543 8605
URL: www.worldcourier.com