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### News Release

## Ciba expands its global packaging testing services through acquisition of Lansmont's Testing Services Group

- **Acquisition provides platform to expand Pira's services into the US market**
- **Combination establishes a leading global consulting and testing services business in the important packaging market**
- **Expanded group is ideal for exporters and multinationals who need service support and supplier consistency around the globe**

Pira International, a UK-based provider of Ciba® Expert Services and supplier of transit and distribution testing and business solutions to the packaging, paper, printing and publishing industries, has expanded its global testing services through the acquisition of the US-based Lansmont Corporation's Testing Services Group. Lansmont's Testing Services Group delivers quality solutions for companies seeking to reduce product / package container costs, improve performance and quality, identify specific environment distribution dynamics and address specific package concerns. Through its three strategically located Service Centers located in Lansing, MI, Sunnyvale, CA, and Huntington Beach, CA, the Testing Services Group offers professional measurement, testing, simulation, and consulting services. The newly acquired organization will operate as an affiliate of Pira International, conducting business under the Pira name.

"This acquisition broadens Ciba Expert Services geographic reach and provides a platform to expand Pira's services into the US market. It fits well with our strategy of building on our core competencies and to further develop the total Ciba Expert Services portfolio which includes regulatory consulting, environmental management, safety and materials testing, business intelligence, events and training," says Adrian Knott, Global Head, Ciba Expert Services.

"Clients will benefit from the increased coverage of US and European markets; this increased geographic coverage is ideal for exporters who need service support and multinationals who need supplier consistency around the globe. This focused

transaction provides Pira with the ideal platform to develop and expand our testing services outside of our traditional base in Europe. Having Lansmont's Testing Services business as part of our team brings great advantages to customers of both organizations and creates opportunities for further profitable growth," adds David Simmonds, Managing Director, Pira International Ltd.

Pira International is a leading specialist supplier of information and business solutions, including consultancy and testing, to the packaging, print, inks, paper, organic electronics, nanotechnology, specialty chemicals and materials technology sectors. Pira has been providing services for more than 75 years from its base in the UK. Pira was acquired by Ciba in 2004, and is now a provider of Ciba® Expert Services.

Lansmont's equipment and instrument business will continue to operate under Lansmont's ownership and is not part of this transaction.

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Ciba (SWX: CIBN) is a leading global company dedicated to producing high-value effects for its customers' products. We strive to be the partner of choice for our customers, offering them innovative products and one-stop expert service. We create effects that improve the quality of life – adding performance, protection, color and strength to plastics, paper, automobiles, buildings, home and personal care products and much more. Ciba is active in more than 120 countries around the world and is committed to be a leader in its chosen markets. In 2006, the Company's continued operations generated sales of CHF 6.4 billion and invested over CHF 270 million in R&D.

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**Virtual news kit:** [www.ciba.com/media](http://www.ciba.com/media)

- *Press release*
- *Photo:*
  - *The metal drum drop test is one key packaging test performed by Pira International and its newest affiliate in the US;*
  - *Pira technicians conduct vibration table tests on plastic bottled water.*
- *Link to Ciba Expert Services webpage:* [www.ciba.com/expertservices](http://www.ciba.com/expertservices)
- *Link to Pira International webpage:* [www.pira-international.com](http://www.pira-international.com)

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