

ASX / Media Release

Ascent appoints Dr Roger Aston as new Chairman, Mr Thomas O'Brien continues as non-executive Director

25 May 2009, Melbourne: Ascent Pharmahealth Limited (ASX:APH) has appointed non-executive Director Dr Roger Aston as its new Chairman. The appointment is effective immediately.

Former Chairman, Mr Thomas J.R. O'Brien, will continue his valuable service as a non-executive Director of the Company. Mr O'Brien has served as Chairman for five years since the Company's initial listing on the Australian Stock Exchange in June 2004.

Dr Aston has over 20 years experience in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries in senior roles in the United Kingdom, Asia-Pacific and Australia. As well as his new appointment, Dr Aston continues to serve as Chairman/CEO for HalcyGen Pharmaceuticals Limited. His earlier positions include CEO of Peptech Limited (now Arana), founder and Director of Australian Cancer Technology Limited, co-founder and Director of the Australian arm of global nanotechnology Company pSiVida Limited, CEO of pSiMedica Limited (UK), Director of Cambridge Antibody Technology Limited (UK) and Chairman of Cambridge Drug Discovery Limited (UK) (now BioFocus plc).

Dr Aston has a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree and PhD from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

Dr Aston said of his appointment: "Ascent is a dynamic Company that has achieved extraordinary growth over its short five-year history. Leading this Company is a substantial commitment which I am eager to embark upon."

"On behalf of the Company and shareholders, we thank Tom O'Brien for his service as Chairman and his continuing solid contribution and astute judgement as a non-executive Director."

Enquiries:

Dennis Bastas
Ascent Pharmahealth
(03) 8677 6602

Rudi Michelson
Monsoon Communications
(03) 9620 3333

About Ascent Pharma:

Ascent Pharmahealth (ASX:APH) has over 400 health products registered in Australia and Asia. It is one of the region's fastest growing and most dynamic pharmaceutical businesses. Ascent registers, markets, distributes and sells generic pharmaceuticals, consumer skincare and over-the-counter medicines. Key subsidiaries are Genepharm, one of Australia's largest generic pharmaceutical companies and Drug Houses of Australia, Singapore's largest generic pharmaceutical Company, which also markets and distributes products in eight Asian countries. The Company listed on the Australian Securities Exchange in June 2004. For more information: www.ascentpharma.com.au