

1 March 2010

**ASTERAND PLC**  
(‘Asterand’ or ‘the Company’)

**Asterand’s UK Facility Accepted into Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)  
Compliance Monitoring Programme**

*The Company Extends its Service Offering into the Preclinical Development Market*

Asterand plc (LSE: ATD), a leading provider of human tissue and human tissue-based services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies engaged in drug discovery, today announced that its UK facility, based in Royston, has been accepted as a member of the UK Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) Compliance Monitoring Programme. With this membership, the Company is immediately able to offer GLP compliant preclinical services to its pharmaceutical and biotech clients. This important addition to our Phase Zero service offering positions Asterand to provide our Pharmaceutical and Biotech customers with one of the most comprehensive human tissue service programmes available worldwide

**Dr. Tony Brown, General Manager, UK Operations commented:**

“We are extremely pleased to add GLP compliant studies to our growing suite of PhaseZERO® services. Our key customers are the world’s top 30 pharmaceutical companies, who increasingly look to source a broader range of services from external providers. This acceptance into the UK GLP Compliance Monitoring Programme allows us to broaden our service offering and provide more opportunities for our customers to develop “one-stop shop” partnerships with Asterand. It represents an important milestone in our mission to become a fully integrated human tissue solutions provider to both the drug discovery and preclinical development markets.”

Asterand’s UK service division offers exemplary scientific expertise in human tissue research. Through its PhaseZERO® service platform the Company has more than 14 years experience in providing multinational pharmaceutical companies with compound evaluation, target and biomarker validation studies. With the ability to offer GLP compliant studies as part of the PhaseZERO® services platform, the Company is now adding preclinical safety studies for regulatory submission to its existing services in the areas of molecular pathology, compound potency, efficacy, disposition and safety. Asterand’s initial GLP compliant offering is tissue cross reactivity testing. Such studies are required by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) as part of the safety package supporting clinical development of therapeutic antibodies.

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### **About ASTERAND**

Asterand plc is a leading supplier of high quality human tissue and tissue-based services. Our comprehensive approach to human tissue and research services offers pharmaceutical, biotech and diagnostic companies the unique opportunity to have one Company meet all of their human biomaterial needs along the continuum of drug discovery and development. Our mission is to accelerate target discovery and compound validation and enable pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to take safer and more effective drugs into the market.

For more information, go to [www.asterand.com](http://www.asterand.com).