



Quidel Corporation Receives 2004 "Best in Class" Award from HPIS; Award Recognizes Highest Year-to-Date Growth in the Immunology Reagents/Supplies Category

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SAN DIEGO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 6, 2004--Quidel Corporation (NASDAQ:QDEL), a leading provider of point-of-care (POC) rapid diagnostic tests, today announced that it has received the 2004 "Best In Class" Award by Healthcare Products Information Services (HPIS), a Neoforma company, and a leading provider of market intelligence for the healthcare industry. HPIS announced the award winners at its first annual "Best In Class" Awards ceremony at the Health Industry Distributors Association (HIDA) Annual Med/Surg Expo recently. Twenty-eight suppliers were recognized for holding the highest sales volume in their respective categories. Winners were determined by looking at the HPIS projected national dollar volume data over the past six quarters (1Q03 - 2Q04), reported as a combined Grand Total. The data were extracted from all six HPIS Report Groups: Physician, Long Term Care, Treatment Centers, Other/Unspecified, Clinical Laboratories and Hospital.

"We are proud of this distinction which signifies our market leadership in three major product categories, influenza, pregnancy and strep A tests with the QuickVue(R) brand products," commented Caren Mason, President and CEO of Quidel Corporation.

"Quidel Corporation is clearly deserving of leadership status in the Immunology Reagents/Supplies Category. We're proud to reward their hard work with our first annual 'Best In Class' Award this year," said Vic Ventura, General Manager at HPIS. "Leveraging Market Intelligence from HPIS, Quidel is able to uncover significant details and trends to diagnose their competitive position, and successfully capitalize on their market opportunities."

"The HPIS Best In Class Award Program was a big hit at the annual HIDA Trade Show in Chicago," said Matt Rowan, President and CEO of HIDA. "It is important for the med/surg industry to recognize and highlight the achievements of the top selling manufacturers in each product category."

About Quidel

Quidel Corporation is a global company dedicated to helping women and their families live healthy lives through the discovery, development, manufacture and marketing of rapid point-of-care (POC) diagnostic tests. These tests detect medical conditions and illnesses associated with women's health in areas such as reproduction and diseases of the elderly. Quidel also provides POC diagnostic tests for infectious diseases, including influenza A & B, Strep throat, H. pylori infection, Chlamydia, infectious mononucleosis and infectious vaginitis. Quidel's diagnostic tests provide information that results in rapid treatment, improved health outcomes, lowered costs and increased patient satisfaction. Quidel's products are sold for use in physician offices, clinical laboratories and pharmacies, and to consumers through organizations that provide private label products. For more information visit www.quidel.com.

About Healthcare Products Information Services (HPIS), a Neoforma Company

Established in 1994, Healthcare Products Information Services (HPIS), a Neoforma company, provides critical market intelligence for the highly competitive healthcare industry. Capturing more than 90 million medical/surgical sales transactions per quarter directly from the nation's leading distributors, HPIS employs state-of-the-art security measures to protect the confidentiality of each distributor's identity in reporting information to clients. HPIS measures performance and market share of manufacturers for a variety of healthcare markets including hospital, physician office, long term care, treatment centers, clinical laboratory, and home healthcare. For more information, go to <http://www.hpis.net>.

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws that involve material risks and uncertainties. Many possible events or factors could affect Quidel's future financial results and performance, such that its actual results and performance may differ materially. As such, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed. Differences in operating results may arise as a result of a number of factors, including, without limitation, intellectual property, product liability, environmental and other litigation, required patent license fee payments not currently reflected in our costs, seasonality, the length and severity of cold and flu seasons, adverse changes in the competitive and economic conditions in domestic and international markets, actions of our major distributors, manufacturing and production delays or difficulties, adverse actions or delays in product reviews by the United States Food and Drug Administration (the "FDA"), and the lower acceptance of our new products than forecast. Forward-looking statements typically are identified by the use of terms such as "may," "will," "should," "might," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate" and similar words, although some forward-looking statements are expressed differently. All of the risks described in reports and registration statements that we file with the SEC from time to time should be carefully considered. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's analysis only as of the date of this press release. We undertake no obligation to publicly release the results of any revision of the forward-looking statements.

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