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ASH STEVENS ENHANCES SPEED AND SAFETY OF SCALE-UP WITH NEW INVESTMENTS IN PARALLEL SYNTHESIS AND CALORIMETRY INSTRUMENTATION

Detroit—January 12, 2009—Ash Stevens Incorporated (ASI), a full service cGMP contract manufacturer, enhanced the speed and safety of scale-up with new investments in parallel synthesis and calorimetry instrumentation at its Riverview, Michigan Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) development and manufacturing site.

The new equipment gives ASI's Development team the ability to assess heats of reaction for the safe scale-up of processes. The system captures real-time data and provides electronic records useful for post-experiment analysis. Traditionally, an experienced scientist could conduct two concurrent experiments manually in the laboratory. With the new system, up to four experiments can be conducted simultaneously spanning a broad range of conditions. The new safety enhancements also include a Thermal Screening Unit used to evaluate the onset of thermal decomposition of reaction components.

"These investments allow us to rapidly optimize chemical processes and better understand process safety parameters prior to scale up," said Dr. Stephen Munk, President and CEO of Ash Stevens. "Our customers will benefit from increased time savings."

Slated for the third quarter of 2009, ASI will bring online a new three-reactor processing suite designed for hydrogenation and additional manufacturing capacity. The new suite

will include a 50-gallon glass-lined steel hydrogenation reaction vessel as well as house a pair of 100-gallon vessels.

For more information, visit Ash Stevens at Informex in San Francisco on January 27-30, 2009 at booth #939 or online at www.ashstevens.com. James M. Hamby, R.Ph., Ph.D., Director of Business Development for Ash Stevens, Inc. will be presenting an Exhibiter Showcase at Informex on Tuesday, January 27 at 4:00 pm in room 304 of the Moscone South Convention Center.

About Ash Stevens, Inc.

Headquartered in Detroit, Ash Stevens, Inc. (ASI) was founded in 1962 to service the chemical research needs of the Federal Government. ASI has extensive experience in the development and scale-up of commercial cancer APIs and shares a longstanding and successful relationship with the National Cancer Institute. ASI has a total of 11 FDA approved drug substances in its portfolio. The company has more than 50 employees and holds patents in both medicinal and process chemistry. For more information, visit www.ashstevens.com.

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