

HARTEST HOLDINGS PLC
("Hartest", or "the Company" or "the Group")

Response to Withdrawal of Possible Joint Offer

The Board of Hartest Holdings Plc note the announcement made by Elektron plc ('Elektron') yesterday that it is no longer considering a possible joint offer for Hartest. Hartest welcomes this clarification of Elektron's intentions.

However, Hartest remains in early stage discussions with one other potential offeror and as such remains in an offer period. Further announcements will be made regarding these discussions as appropriate.

The new financial year has started well, and trading by all Group companies is in line with, or ahead of, the Board's expectations. Gross margins are improving, and overheads are under close control. The relocation of our two subsidiary companies, Hartest Precision Instruments and Agar Scientific, has also been completed successfully.

27 August 2009

For Further Information:

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