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Questel•Orbit Announces 2003 Official Results

Questel•Orbit continued to underscore its strategy, which is centered on the online distribution of intellectual property information.

McLean, VA, April 2, 2004--Despite a weak economy throughout 2003 and the dollar's erosion, Questel-Orbit maintained sales revenues of 18 million euros, investing heavily in R&D programs.

Most notably, in 2003 the company:

- Reaffirmed its growing market share of information search experts worldwide, with PlusPat and other offerings
- Further penetrated the integrated patent solutions market with QPAT
- Launched a highly-recognized trademark similarity search offering
- Redeployed its sales force in the English, German and Scandinavian markets, and formed an exclusive distribution agreement in Japan with Patolis.

Operating income in 2003 jumped 1.67 million euros, a 15% increase from 2002, reaffirming the company's successful business model following its first operating income balance in 2001. On March 26, 2004, the Shareholders Assembly approved a high distribution of dividends, equity no longer needing reinforcement. Currently, Questel employees own over 20% of company shares. Other financial fundamentals are solid, with zero debt and growing cash reserves of over 7 million euros.

In 2004, Questel-Orbit aims to boost revenues (given constant exchange rates) with exclusive product launches in the trademark and the patent markets. The company will continue to build up its core business, increase profit margins through cost control measures, and continually improve its offerings in order to meet the market's requirements. The company plans to stick to its proven business model.

About Questel•Orbit:

Questel•Orbit has been helping manage some of the world's most important IP portfolios for the last 25 years. The company provides high-end IP data and search products, including databases containing the world's most comprehensive collection of patents and trademarks.

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