



**[For Immediate Release]**

## **LifeTec's Wei Jia Landed In Vietnam, Taking A First Step Into International Market**

- ◆ **Wei Jia was granted import license and sales permit in Vietnam**
- ◆ **Sales campaign will be launched in Vietnam within next two months**

**[6 Oct 2003] LifeTec Group Limited** (“LifeTec” or the “Company” or the “Group”, HKEX Stock Code: 1180) announced its flagship product Wei Jia has successfully landed in Vietnam. This is a very important step for LifeTec to tap international market.

Drug Administration of Vietnam has granted the import license and permit for the sales of Wei Jia in Vietnam. There is solid demand for Wei Jia in the country. LifeTec will deploy sales professionals to conduct sales promotion and provide guidance on the clinical use of Wei Jia in Vietnam.

There are about 12 million people infected with hepatitis B in Vietnam. The infection rate is 15% of the country's population and is about double of that of other Asian countries. Vietnam has a fairly strong demand for hepatitis drugs amongst the Asian countries. The production and consumption of drugs are largely influenced by state policies, as is the control of hospitals. Nearly all of the pharmaceutical factories are state owned while private sector plays an important and dominant role in drug retailing. Currently, the Vietnamese medicine market is dominated by imported drugs as most patients perceive the imported drugs are of better quality and efficacy. The growth potential of the Vietnamese pharmaceutical market is huge.

Mr. Jay Chun, LifeTec Chairman, said “Thanks to the on-going effort of the management, Wei Jia can finally be sold in Vietnam. The Group will continue to actively expand the overseas markets and speed up the growth of our pharmaceutical sales.” Mr. Chun added, “Vietnam has a population of about 80 million and a drug market that cannot be ignored in Asia. To expand into new business frontier,

LifeTec will consider acting as the agent of other high quality biopharmaceutical products and selling these products to Vietnam.”

### **About LifeTec**

LifeTec is a Hong Kong listed company (stock code 1180) engaged in the development, sale and distribution of innovative biopharmaceutical products based on original technology. LifeTec owns the intellectual property, production knowhow and worldwide exclusive distributorship for the new generation hepatitis drug Wei Jia.

With 120 million hepatitis B carriers, China is the world's largest market for hepatitis drug. LifeTec targets the 5 million severe hepatitis patients in China and aims to capture this US\$1.6 billion market. Since the commercial launch of Wei Jia in mid 2001, the number of hospitals adopting Wei Jia has been soaring. Currently Wei Jia is adopted by over 600 hospitals. LifeTec has set up a nationwide distribution network covering all regions in China for the launch of national drug sales and distribution operations.

In addition to liver drugs, LifeTec has also been exploring opportunities in new drugs. LifeTec has acquired two new drug projects in Dec 2002, namely the augments for liver regeneration (“rhALR”) and new generation antiseptic Pazufloxacin. rhALR is a revolutionary gene therapy for various kinds of liver diseases. The Gene Therapy Research Center of the Institute of Infectious Diseases of The Peoples' Liberation Army is the technical partner in the rhALR project. At the same time, the Company is developing the recombinant DNA version of Wei Jia and novel anti-fibrosis and anti-cancer compound Fibroscutum in conjunction with the City University of Hong Kong.

LifeTec has well-equipped laboratory facilities in Shanghai. The scientific advisory board of LifeTec consists of top hepatitis experts and renowned scientists in China. LifeTec also has close collaboration with leading medical research institutions in China and overseas. The Company has been holding active dialogues with prominent biopharmaceutical enterprises in Asia, U.S. and China to explore the possibility of forming strategic alliances in areas like marketing and joint product development.

“Biotechnology – from life and for life” is LifeTec's corporate motto which signifies management's dedication to apply biotechnology for the well-being of mankind.

**This press release is issued by PR Concepts Company Limited on behalf of LifeTech Group Limited. For further information, please contact:**

**Mr. Andrew Fung /Ms. Vivian Lo**

**PR Concepts Company Ltd.**

**Tel: (852) 2520 2690**

**Fax: (852) 2527 8996**

**Mobile: (852) 9468 0698/ 9682 8123**

**E-mail: [andrewf@prconcept.com](mailto:andrewf@prconcept.com)/[vivianl@prconcept.com](mailto:vivianl@prconcept.com)**