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**THE AUSTRAL GROUP, SISTER COMPANY AND CRUDE FISH OIL SUPPLIER TO
EPAX AS, COMPLIES WITH NEW EUROPEAN UNION
HYGIENE REGULATIONS FOR FISH OIL**

AALESUND, Norway (March 11, 2009) - The Austral Group, a sister subsidiary in the Austevoll fisheries group and supplier of omega-3 crude fish oil to EPAX AS, has received approval from Instituto Tecnológico Pesquero del Perú (Institute of Fisheries Technology of Peru) for its fish oil plants and fishing fleet in Peru for the production of human consumption foodstuff to the European Union (EU).

This new EU hygiene directive for crude fish oil takes effect May 1 and confirms that EPAX's entire omega-3 fish oil supply chain is now classified under one EU-compliant quality system.

“Given that Austral is EPAX's main supplier of crude fish oil, its compliance to the EU health directive ensures that EPAX's vertical integration strategy begins with a high-quality, safe and properly regulated fish oil supply,” said Bjorn Refsum, CEO of EPAX AS. “This new health legislation benefits the omega-3 industry as there will be a clear and distinct difference between raw fish oil intended for animal feedstuff and crude fish oil intended for human consumption.”

The classification of crude fish oil plants and vessels is in relation to the new EU health directive for human consumption to ensure the quality of raw materials. Fish oil intended for human consumption must meet the requirements for fishery products found in the hygiene regulations. This means that the raw materials and the fish oil must come from establishments, including vessels, registered or approved pursuant to the hygiene regulations and be derived from products that are fit for human consumption and are handled throughout the food chain as such. Animal by-products and fishery products not fit for human consumption cannot be used as raw material for fish oil for human consumption.

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About EPAX AS

EPAX AS offers concentrated marine omega-3 oils in the business-to-business segment under the brand name EPAX®, available in a wide range of top-quality formulas with different EPA/DHA ratios and concentrations focused on specific health conditions, available in TG and EE versions. EPAX AS is headquartered in Aalesund with a global sales office in Lysaker/Oslo, Norway. Its production facility in Aalesund is GMP-approved by the Norwegian Medicines Agency for the manufacturing of API products. EPAX is part of the Austevoll Seafood ASA group - a globally integrated pelagic fishery specialist with operations in Chile, Norway and Peru (www.auss.no). All of EPAX's business efforts reflect the company's core commitment: Purity | Quality | Innovation. These values represent EPAX's commitment to offering products that are safe, pure and of consistent quality. EPAX® specifications limits for environmental pollutants and oxidation by-products are well below those set by global authorities' limits. All EPAX formulas are backed by clinical studies.

For further information on EPAX AS, its products or clinical studies visit www.epax.com or contact marketing manager Gunilla Traberg at gunilla.traberg@epax.com.

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