



## ASX & MEDIA RELEASE

### Appointment of interim consultant CMO

**EMERYVILLE, California and BRISBANE, Australia, 20 June 2008: Peplin, Inc.** (ASX:PLI) today announced that Gary Patou MD had accepted appointment as Peplin's consultant Chief Medical Officer on an interim basis. Dr Patou has previously served in this role from June 2006 to April 2007.

Dr Patou is a Managing Director at MPM Capital and has broad experience in drug development, most recently as Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Oscient Pharmaceuticals, Inc., following its merger with GeneSoft Pharmaceuticals in 2004 and previously, as President of Genesoft. Dr. Patou was instrumental in applying for and obtaining FDA approval of the company's lead product, FACTIVE® tablets. Prior to joining Genesoft, Dr. Patou worked at SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, now a unit of GlaxoSmithKline, as Senior Vice President & Director, Project and Portfolio Management, managing all of the company's pharmaceutical development projects including FACTIVE, as well as FDA-approved products Avandia, Paxil and Augmentin.

Dr Patou will serve as interim consultant CMO until a permanent appointment is made.

Peplin CEO Michael Aldridge said "Gary is very familiar with our development program and, together with Peter Welburn, Peplin's CSO and Vice President Research & Development, was instrumental in the design and implementation of our more recent and very successful phase II AK clinical trials. I am pleased he has agreed to serve the Peplin team in this important role."

"We expect to start two late stage Phase IIb and Phase III clinical trials imminently and Gary's oversight of those trials and his considerable experience in drug development will be valuable as we deliver results and approach our important End-of-Phase II meeting with FDA," he said.

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#### ABOUT PEPLIN

Peplin is a development stage specialty pharmaceutical company focused on advancing and commercializing innovative medical dermatology products. Peplin is currently developing PEP005 (ingenol mebutate), which is the first in a new class of compounds and which is derived from the sap of *Euphorbia peplus*, or *E. peplus*, a rapidly growing, readily available plant commonly referred to as petty spurge or radium weed. *E. peplus* has a long history of traditional use for a variety of conditions, including the topical self-treatment of various skin

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disorders, including skin cancer and pre-cancerous skin lesions. Peplin's lead product candidate is a patient-applied topical gel containing ingenol mebutate, a compound the use of which Peplin has patented for the treatment of actinic keratosis, or AK. This product candidate is currently in Phase II clinical trials and is referred to as PEP005 (ingenol mebutate) Gel.

#### **FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined under U.S. federal securities laws, including, but not limited to, Peplin's clinical development plan referred to herein. These forward-looking statements can be identified through the use of words such as "anticipates," "expects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," "may," "will," and variations of these words or similar expressions. Forward looking statements are based on management's current, preliminary expectations and actual results could differ materially as a result of various risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, delays in the completion of clinical trials resulting from, among other things, ambiguous or negative interim results, failure to close the acquisition of Neosil, Inc., unforeseen safety issues, failure to conduct the clinical trials in accordance with regulatory requirements or clinical protocols, suspension or termination of a clinical trial by the FDA or other regulatory authorities, lack of adequate funding to continue a clinical trial and other important factors disclosed from time to time in Peplin's disclosures to the ASX. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they were made. No undue reliance should be placed on any forward-looking statements. Such information is subject to change, and we undertake no obligation to update such statements.