



DURECT Corporation Invites You to Join its Third Quarter 2001 Conference Call on the Web

CUPERTINO, Calif., Oct 15, 2001 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ — In conjunction with DURECT Corporation's (Nasdaq: DRRX) third quarter financial results press release, you are invited to listen to its conference call that will be broadcast live over the Internet on Wednesday, October 31, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. EDT with Jim Brown, President and Chief Executive Officer, Tom Schreck, Chief Financial Officer, and Schond Greenway, Senior Director, Investor Relations and Strategic Planning.

What: DURECT Corporation's third quarter earnings conference call

When: Wednesday, October 31, 2001, 4:30 p.m. EDT

Where: http://www.durect.com/wt/frame.php?page_name=investor

How: Live over the Internet -- Simply log on to the Web at the address listed above or access through DURECT's Website.

Contact: Suzanne Watson, DURECT Corporation, 408-864-7489,
Suzanne.Watson@durect.com

If you are unable to participate during the live webcast, the call will be archived at: http://www.durect.com/wt/frame.php?page_name=investor.

DURECT Corporation is pioneering the development and commercialization of pharmaceutical systems for the treatment of chronic debilitating diseases and enabling biotechnology-based pharmaceutical products. DURECT's goal is to deliver the right drug to the right site in the right amount at the right time. DURECT's pharmaceutical systems combine technology innovations from the medical device and drug delivery industries with proprietary pharmaceutical and biotechnology drug formulations. These capabilities can enable new drug therapies or optimize existing therapies based on a broad range of compounds, including small molecule pharmaceuticals as well as biotechnology molecules such as proteins, peptides and genes. DURECT focuses on the treatment of chronic diseases including pain, CNS disorders, cardiovascular disease and cancer. In addition to holding an exclusive license from ALZA Corporation (NYSE: AZA) to develop and commercialize products in selected fields based on the DUROS(R) implant technology, DURECT also owns multiple proprietary drug delivery platforms including SABER(TM), a patented and versatile depot technology and the IntraEAR(R) catheters which have been used by physicians to treat inner ear disorders.

Founded in 1998, DURECT is headquartered in Cupertino, CA. The company's World Wide Web site can be accessed at <http://www.durect.com>. To join DURECT's email alert service, please register by selecting "Email Alerts" on the main Investor Relations web page at <http://www.durect.com>. SABER(TM) and IntraEAR(R) are trademarks of DURECT Corporation. DUROS(R) is a trademark of ALZA Corporation.

The statements in this press release regarding DURECT's products in development,



product development plans, expected product benefits or potential product markets are forward-looking statements involving risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements. Potential risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, DURECT's ability to successfully complete clinical trials, develop, manufacture and commercialize its products, obtain product and manufacturing approvals from regulatory agencies, validate and qualify a manufacturing facility and manage its growth and expenses, as well as marketplace acceptance of DURECT's products. Further information regarding these and other risks is included in DURECT's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2001 filed with the SEC on August 14, 2001, and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000 filed with the SEC on March 30, 2001, under the heading "Factors that may effect future results".

SOURCE DURECT Corporation

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URL: <http://www.durect.com>
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