Aastrom

Aastrom Biosciences Receives Notification That NASDAQ Issued Temporary Suspension of Certain Continued Listing Requirements

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Oct. 28, 2008 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Aastrom Biosciences, Inc. (Nasdaq:ASTM), a leading regenerative medicine company, announced that the Company received notification from the Listings Qualifications Department of The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ") that, given the current extraordinary market conditions, NASDAQ had suspended enforcement of the rules requiring a minimum $1.00 per share closing bid price and a minimum market value of publicly held shares through Friday, January 16, 2009. As previously announced, Aastrom had been given until December 15, 2008 to evidence a closing bid price of $1.00 or more for a minimum of ten consecutive business days to regain compliance. As a result of NASDAQ's suspension, Aastrom now has until March 20, 2009 to regain compliance with the $1.00 minimum closing bid price rule in order to remain listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market.

NASDAQ stated in its Issuer Alert #2008-005, dated October 16, 2008, that it believes this temporary suspension will permit companies to focus on running their businesses, rather than satisfying market based requirements that are largely beyond their control in the current environment. This ruling also aims to increase investor confidence in NASDAQ companies currently facing the prospect of delisting. NASDAQ stated it will not take any action to delist any security for these concerns during the temporary suspension and it will continue to monitor companies to determine if they regain compliance during the temporary suspension.

About Aastrom Biosciences, Inc.

Aastrom is a leader in the development of autologous cell products for the repair or regeneration of human tissue. The Company's proprietary Tissue Repair Cell (TRC) technology involves the use of a patient's own cells to manufacture products to treat a range of chronic diseases and serious injuries. Aastrom's TRC-based products contain increased numbers of stem and early progenitor cells, produced from a small amount of bone marrow collected from the patient. The TRC technology platform has positioned Aastrom to advance multiple products into clinical development. Ongoing development activities are focused on applications of the technology to cardiac and vascular regeneration. The Company currently has a cardiovascular regeneration product in Phase II development for the treatment of dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) (called the IMPACT-DCM trial) and critical limb ischemia (called the RESTORE-CLI trial).

For more information, visit Aastrom's website at www.aastrom.com.

The Aastrom Biosciences, Inc. logo is available at http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=3663

This document contains forward-looking statements, including without limitation, statements concerning planned clinical trials and activities and anticipated timing of clinical events, product development objectives, and potential product applications, which involve certain risks and uncertainties. The forward-looking statements are also identified through use of the words "expected," "anticipated," "planned," and other words of similar meaning. Actual results may differ significantly from the expectations contained in the forward-looking statements. Among the factors that may result in differences are potential patient accrual difficulties, clinical trial results, potential product development difficulties, the effects of competitive therapies, regulatory approval requirements, the availability of financial and other resources and the allocation of resources among different potential uses. These and other significant factors are discussed in greater detail in Aastrom's Annual Report on Form 10-K and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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