

27 November 2009



ABANO WINS COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Abano Healthcare Group was last night named Company of the Year in the Deloitte/Management Magazine Top 200 Awards.

Judges said: "Abano's meticulously executed strategies and highly competent governance and management leadership means that this company not only deserves to be acknowledged as the Company of the Year, but that it is a home grown enterprise worth emulating.

"Another outstanding performance by a healthcare company that continues to surprise. Last year, Abano won the Top 200 Best Growth Strategy Award. This year, it is the Company of the Year because of its outstanding performance and financial results and returns to shareholders. Abano has successfully faced down two unwelcome takeover offers and continued to perform. This clever and exceptionally well-managed business has grown through Greenfield developments and its equally successful partnership model for acquisitions.

"The company's healthy balance sheet is testimony to its refusal to sacrifice performance for growth, capitalising on the increasing demand for well-managed and professionally delivered health services. This is an outstandingly well run business that is gearing up to enter a new phase of future development."

Managing director of Abano, Alan Clarke, commented: "This is a huge accolade for us in one of New Zealand's most recognised business awards.

"Our success is built on the dedicated clinicians, scientists, management teams and support staff who are committed to providing professional, quality care and treatment to all people. These wonderful people play an essential part in the ongoing growth and success of our business, and are the backbone of our company.

"We are delighted to be named the Deloitte/Management Magazine Top 200 Company of the Year."

Ends

For more information, please call:

Alan Clarke
Managing Director
Tel: 09 300 1412 Mob: 021 368818

Richard Keys
Chief Financial Officer
Tel: 09 300 1413 Mob: 0274 818 368

**Released on behalf of Abano Healthcare Group by Jackie Ellis, spice communications group.
Tel: 09 3608500 or mobile: 027 246 2505**

Abano Healthcare Group is New Zealand's leading listed specialist healthcare investor and operator, with businesses in four sectors – audiology, rehabilitation, diagnostics and dental – with operations across New Zealand, Australia and Asia.

Existing subsidiaries include:

Abano Audiology	Bay International Bay Audio Pty (Australia) Bay Audiology Hong Kong Bay Audiology Singapore Bay Audiology Malaysia	50% owned by Abano 96% owned by Bay International 100% owned by Bay International 100% owned by Bay International 100% owned by Bay International
Abano Rehabilitation	Abano Rehabilitation Burtons Healthcare (NZ) Health Partners (NZ) Ranworth Healthcare (NZ) Orthotic Centre (NZ)	100% owned by Abano 100% owned by Abano
Abano Diagnostics	Aotea Pathology (Wellington, NZ) Ascot Radiology (Auckland, NZ) Greenlane Imaging Insight Radiology (NZ)	55% owned by Abano 73% owned by Abano 80% owned by Abano
Abano Dental	Lumino The Dentists (NZ) Kidz-Teeth (NZ) Dental Partners (Australia)	100% owned by Abano 70% owned by Abano 70% owned by Abano