



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

CUPERTINO, Calif., Jul 19, 2001 /PRNewswire/ — In conjunction with DURECT Corporation's (Nasdaq: DRRX) second quarter financial results press release, you are invited to listen to its conference call that will be broadcast live over the Internet on Monday, July 30, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. EDT with Jim Brown, President and Chief Executive Officer, Tom Schreck, Chief Financial Officer, and Schond Greenway, Director, Investor Relations.

What: DURECT Corporation second quarter earnings conference call
When: Monday, July 30, 2001, 4:30 p.m. EDT
Where: http://www.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: Andi Wakayama, Noonan/Russo Communications, 415-677-4455, ext. 252

DURECT Corporation is pioneering the development and commercialization of pharmaceutical systems that will 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. Founded in 1998, the Company is headquartered in Cupertino, CA. The Company's World Wide Web site can be accessed at <http://www.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.www.durect.com>

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

Minimum Requirements to listen to broadcast: The RealPlayer software, downloadable free from <http://www.real.com/products/player/index.html>, and at least a 14.4Kbps connection to the Internet. If you experience problems listening to the broadcast, send an email to webmaster@vdat.com.)

The statements in this press release regarding DURECT's products in development, product development plans, or expected product benefits, 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 develop, manufacture and commercialize its products, successfully complete clinical trials, obtain product and manufacturing approvals from regulatory agencies, and validate and qualify a manufacturing facility, as well as marketplace acceptance



of DURECT's products. Further information regarding these and other risks is included in the company's S-1 registration statement, filed with the SEC on September 22, 2000, 424(b) prospectus filed with the SEC on September 28, 2000, Quarterly Report on Form 10Q for the quarter ended April 30, 2001 filed with the SEC on May 11, 2001 and Annual Report on Form 10K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000 filed with the SEC on March 30, 2001.

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