



DURECT Corporation Invites You to Join Its Third Quarter 2002 Conference Call on the Web

CUPERTINO, Calif., Oct 16, 2002 /PRNewswire-FirstCall 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 Monday, November 11th, 2002 at 4:30 p.m. EDT with Jim Brown, President and Chief Executive Officer, Tom Schreck, Chief Financial Officer and Felix Theeuwes, Chairman and Chief Scientific Officer.

What: DURECT Corporation's Third Quarter 2002 Earnings Conference Call
When: Monday, November 11th, 2002, 4:30 p.m. EDT
Where: www.durect.com and click "Investor Relations"
How: Live over the Internet -- Simply log on to the Web at the address listed above.
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 on DURECT's website under Audio Archive in the "Investor Relations" section.

DURECT Corporation (www.durect.com) 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. In November 2001, DURECT completed a pilot phase III program for the CHRONOGESIC(TM) (sufentanil) Pain Therapy System, a 3-month product for the treatment of chronic pain. DURECT owns three proprietary drug delivery platform technologies, including the SABER(TM) Delivery System (a patented and versatile depot injectable useful for protein delivery), the MICRODUR(TM) Biodegradable Microparticulates (microspheres injectable system) and the DURIN(TM) Biodegradable Implant (drug-loaded implant system).

NOTE: CHRONOGESIC(TM) is a trademark of DURECT Corporation. SABER(TM), MICRODUR(TM) and DURIN(TM) are trademarks of Southern BioSystems, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of DURECT Corporation. Other trademarks referred to belong to their respective owners.

The statements in this press release regarding DURECT's products in development and product development plans, are forward-looking statements involving risks and uncertainties that can 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 research, develop, manufacture and commercialize its products, obtain product and manufacturing approvals from regulatory agencies, manage its growth and expenses, finance its activities and operations, as well as marketplace acceptance of DURECT's products. Further information regarding these and other risks is included in DURECT's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001 filed with the



SEC on March 28, 2002, under the heading "Factors that may affect future results," and other periodic reports filed with the SEC. CHRONOGESIC is under development by DURECT and has not been submitted or approved for commercialization by the US Food and Drug Administration or other health authorities.

SOURCE DURECT Corporation

CONTACT:

Schond L. Greenway, Senior Director, Investor Relations and Strategic Planning of DURECT Corporation, +1-408-777-1417, or schond.greenway@durect.com

/Photo: NewsCom: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020717/DRRXLOGO>

AP Archive: <http://photoarchive.ap.org>

PRN Photo Desk, 1-888-776-6555 or +1-212-782-2840

URL:

<http://www.durect.com>

Copyright (C) 2002 PR Newswire. All rights reserved.