**\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

 **Thomas Eichholtz appointed new Head of Global Research and Development at the Chiesi Group**

**Parma, July 2, 2020** – Thomas Eichholtz is the new Head of Global Research and Development at the Chiesi Group. A senior leader with over 25 years’ experience in Research and Development across the entire value chain, from target identification to registration and post-marketing activities, Thomas Eichholtz boasts a solid scientific background and proven experience in managing international teams. In his new role, his main strategic objective will be to promote and accelerate organizational development programmes and the R&D pipeline and – based in Parma – he will be working closely with the Chiesi Group’s CEO, Ugo Di Francesco. In addition, Thomas will be assisted by Dr. Paolo Chiesi from July 1st to December 31st, with the aim of ensuring the continuity of the company’s research and development programmes, facilitating his initial period and the R&D organisational transition under the CEO’s responsibility.

*“I am very proud to take on this new role and greatly appreciate the level of trust which the Group and the Chiesi family have shown in me –* says **Thomas Eichholtz** – *I am extremely enthusiastic about taking on this professional challenge with the same spirit demonstrated by the company, which has always directed its focus, its energy and its resources towards development and growth and has a very strong ethical stance”.*

Thomas Eichholtz began his professional career in the pharmaceutical industry in 1993 at Wellcomeas a post-doctoral Research Scientist. During the following 9 years, he was appointed Head of COPD Research in GlaxoWellcome and subsequently Genetics and Surrogates Head in GSK. In 2002 he moved to Pfizer, initially as Head of COPD Biology and later as Head of Biology Respiratory Diseases. In 2003 he joined AstraZenecaas Head of Translational Sciences, subsequently becoming Head of Discovery then Head of Project Management, always in Respiratory & Inflammation. In Almirall (2012) he had the role of Head of Discovery, then Head of R&D; in Mundipharma (2018) he was Head of External R&D and most recently, he co-founded Evolve Healthcare Partners, a Private Equity fund.

**The Chiesi Group**

Based in Parma, Italy, Chiesi Farmaceutici is an international research-oriented group, with 85 years’ experience in the pharmaceutical sector, and operates in 29 countries. The Group conducts research, develops and markets innovative therapeutics for respiratory diseases, special care and rare diseases. The Group’s Research and Development Centre is in Parma and forms part of four other important R&D groups in France, the USA, the UK and Sweden to advance its pre-clinical, clinical and registration programmes. The Group employs around 6,000 people. Chiesi is a certified B Corp. For further information [www.chiesi.com](http://www.chiesi.com)

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