

Media Release

Statement on verdict regarding Advanced Bionics

Staeфа (Switzerland), 17.04.2013 – Sonova Holding AG, the world's leading provider of hearing solutions, acknowledges today the verdict of the Kentucky Western District Court. The case was brought by a patient whose cochlear implant malfunctioned as a result of moisture ingress. The device in question was part of a voluntary recall issued by Advanced Bionics in March 2006. A jury yesterday awarded the plaintiff damages totaling USD 7.25 million. Sonova will carefully review the verdict and considers an appeal.

In light of the verdict, Sonova will reassess its provisions for claims of this category which can affect the financial year 2012/13 results due to be reported in May. The financial impact of such reassessment has not been included in the current guidance for financial year 2012/13.

In 2006, Advanced Bionics identified an issue related to the feedthrough assembly provided by one (commonly referred to as Vendor B) of two approved vendors, affecting some, but not all HiRes 90K devices manufactured prior to March 2006. The company promptly initiated a voluntary recall of all unimplanted devices that contained the Vendor B feedthrough component and immediately ceased the use of feedthroughs from Vendor B.

The recall was already resolved prior to the acquisition of Advanced Bionics by Sonova in 2009. The HiRes 90K implant manufactured today is the most reliable device ever manufactured by Advanced Bionics leading the industry with a 99.8%¹ reliability rate. Advanced Bionics is a global leader in cochlear implants firmly committed to the continuous improvement of the quality of its products and the reliability of its implants.

¹ Advanced Bionics Reliability Update 2012.

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About Sonova

Sonova Holding AG, headquartered in Staefa, Switzerland, is the leading manufacturer of innovative hearing care solutions. The group operates through its core business brands Phonak, Unitron, Advanced Bionics and Connect Hearing. Sonova offers its customers one of the most comprehensive product portfolios in the industry – from hearing instruments to cochlear implants to wireless communication solutions. Founded in 1947, the group is currently present in over 90 countries across the globe and has a workforce of over 8,500 dedicated employees. Sonova generated sales of CHF 1,62 billion in the financial year 2011/12 and a net profit of CHF 246 million. By supporting the Hear the World Foundation, Sonova pursues its vision of a world where everyone enjoys the delight of hearing and therefore lives a life without limitations.

For more information please visit www.sonova.com and www.hear-the-world.com.

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