

Press Release

For immediate release

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NP PHARM successfully passes the AFSSAPS' inspection

Following the increase of production potential, it was audited for the level of compliance with good manufacturing practices for excipient manufacturing.

Paris, France - NP PHARM, one of the world's leading manufacturers of innovative pharmaceutical excipients, announces that the French Agency of medical safety for health products (AFSSAPS) completed an inspection at its production site, based in Bazainville, near Paris, for the manufacturing of its complete range of excipients.

The inspection concentrated on the manufacturing of sugar spheres and the associated quality system, according to the following guidelines : draft of good manufacturing practices of the guide for French health and good manufacturing practices for pharmaceutical excipients published by the IPEC.

"We are now considerably closer to the quality systems of pharmaceutical companies, our customers," said Mr. Patrick Sanial, managing director of NP Pharm. "It is also a great satisfaction for our high-tech production site which has always been committed to quality from the start."

The production site was recently extended in surface area to optimize the manufacturing of excipients while respecting good manufacturing practices as well as in capacity to meet the constantly increasing needs of pharmaceutical laboratories.

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About NP PHARM:

www.nppharm.fr

www.nppharm-polymers.com

Founded in January 1992, NP PHARM is a private company, subsidiary of the Ethypharm group. NP PHARM is a leader in the manufacture of excipients and supplies pharmaceutical industries with sugar spheres (also called non-pareil seeds) under the trade names: SUGLETS® and NPTAB®.

The company offers a production with a commitment to quality (certification ISO 9001:2000, in compliance with the cGMP) for the formulation of oral solid dosage forms (for pharmaceutical and nutritional complements). A cutting edge production site, located in Bazainville, west of Paris, was built to guarantee a high level of quality for a capacity of 800T/year.

NP PHARM manufactures a broad range of pharmaceutical inactive ingredients such as : sugar spheres (Suglets®), colored sugar spheres, functional pellets for direct compression (NPTAB®), microcrystalline cellulose pellets (Ethispheres), homeopathic globules and granules