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Pfizer celebrates “topping-off” of new research building



PHILADELPHIA, PA – July 2, 2007 – Representatives from Pfizer, construction manager Gilbane–Tarlton Joint Venture, and design firm KlingStubbins, gathered at the Chesterfield, MO construction site of Pfizer’s new \$200 million research facility, to partake in the industry ritual of “topping-off” the building. This celebration commemorates the completion of the structure’s steel frame. Tradition dictates the placement of an American flag on the uppermost steel beam. For the Pfizer Chesterfield campus, there is an additional significance that is both real and symbolic: this new facility, built on the axis of a vibrant existing complex, will be a key milestone of a master plan over twenty years in the making, and the realization of an environment that is all about communication and investigation in science.

The topping-off event reaffirms Pfizer’s commitment to unifying its research operations, assisting the company’s mission of delivering new medicines. The 320,000 SF research building, designed by

KlingStubbins, will consolidate the St. Louis Pfizer Global Research & Development (PGRD) colleagues into a single, contiguous facility on the Chesterfield campus. Currently, the St. Louis PGRD colleagues are housed in three different sites throughout the St. Louis area. The new research building is scheduled to open in late 2008 and will allow the R&D population to grow to a little over 1,000 employees. Clever planning by the Pfizer and KlingStubbins team has provided design benefits that are often thought to be at odds: the building is at once gracious, efficient, and flexible. The key to this mix was in leveraging the site’s greatest asset, its privileged location near the Missouri River’s verdant landscape, visible throughout the building from laboratories, office areas, and meeting spaces.

KlingStubbins provides professional services in all major disciplines within the realm of architecture, engineering, interiors, planning, and landscape architecture. The firm consists of more than 500 professionals in its Cambridge, MA; Las Vegas, NV; Philadelphia, PA; Raleigh, NC; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC offices. Its areas of market focus and specialization include Corporate/Commercial, Government, Health Care, Higher Education, Hospitality/Entertainment, Institutional/Civic, Mission Critical, and Research and Development.

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