## SIGVARIS Announces Life for Legs Compression Therapy Contest during DVT Awareness Month

SIGVARIS® has announced their Life for Legs Compression Therapy Contest. Consumers who wear compression therapy socks or support hose can win up to \$5000 MSRP in SIGVARIS compression therapy products. Visit www.sigvarisusa.com for details.

**March 11, 2009** - <u>*PRLog*</u> -- Peachtree City, GA – SIGVARIS® has announced their Life for Legs Compression Therapy Contest for US consumers during beginning in March, DVT Awareness Month. People who wear compression therapy or support hose can win up to \$5000 MSRP in SIGVARIS compression therapy products. The SIGVARIS Life for Legs contest will run from March 1 – May 31, 2009. Visit http://www.sigvarisusa.com to enter the contest or for more details.

People wear SIGVARIS compression therapy socks or support hose if they have been diagnosed with a leg vein circulation disorder, or to reduce their risk of swollen ankles, tired feet, leg circulation issues or leg discomfort during pregnancy, while traveling, standing or sitting for prolonged periods of time.

DVT Awareness Month is the time of year when health organizations nationwide come together to educate consumers about the symptoms and dangers of deep vein thrombosis (DVT).

A DVT is a blood clot that develops in a deep vein, usually in a leg. This is a serious condition. Sometimes these clots can break away and travel through the bloodstream to vital organs of the body and can cause severe injury or death. DVT risk factors include: prolonged sitting or restricted mobility due to long-distance travel, and pregnancy.

Wearing graduated compression stockings or socks reduces the risk of DVT or complications by 50% -Source: Brandjes DP. Et al. Lancet 1997, American Public Health Association White Paper: Deep Vein Thrombosis: Advancing Awareness to Protect Patient Lives, February 26, 2003

As part of the contest's DVT Awareness efforts, SIGVARIS North America is offering complimentary educational materials including a retail poster, a consumer brochure and an online video to help medical product retailers and health professionals advance consumer knowledge of graduated compression therapy in the treatment and prevention of deep vein thrombosis.

To view the SIGVARIS DVT Awareness resources including a list of DVT symptoms and risk factors, please visit <u>http://tinyurl.com/SIGVARISdvtaware</u>.

## SIGVARIS Life for Legs video: <u>http://tinyurl.com/LifeforLegsVideo</u>

Scenes include a pregnant woman who suffers from swollen ankles, a business traveler who is concerned about the long time she spends in flight, and a repairman who stands for long periods of time at work.

Through this initiative, SIGVARIS also is supporting the Acting US Surgeon General Steven K. Galson, M.D., M.P.H., recent Call to Action to reduce the number of cases of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in the United States. Galson urged all Americans to learn about and prevent these treatable conditions. Read the full US Surgeon General Call to Action for DVT Awareness at <a href="http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/calls/index.html">http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/calls/index.html</a>.

Deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism affect an estimated 350,000 to 600,000 Americans each

year. Together, deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism contribute to at least 100,000 deaths each year. More people die from DVT complications in the US each year than breast cancer, motor vehicle accidents and AIDS combined, and pregnant women are 5-6 times more likely than non-pregnant women to suffer a DVT.

For more information on SIGVARIS, please email sigvariscares@sigvaris.com or call 1.800.322.7744.

## About Deep Vein Thrombosis

More information on DVT Awareness and Prevention is available from:

- US Surgeon General: http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/
- Vascular Disease Foundation: http://www.vdf.org/
- Venous Disease Coalition: http://www.venousdiseasecoalition.org/
- American Venous Forum: http://www.venous-info.com/

## About SIGVARIS

SIGVARIS® North America is part of an internationally active medical device group headquartered in Winterthur, Switzerland that focuses on the development, production and distribution of medical compression garments, including hosiery and socks. With distribution in more than 50 countries on six continents, SIGVARIS is recognized as a global industry leader in the area of compression therapy for the management of venous and lymphatic disorders. Our US manufacturing facility is located in Peachtree City, GA. For more information, please visit www.sigvarisusa.com. SIGVARIS, LIFE FOR LEGS and the leg icon are registered trademarks of Ganzoni & Cie AG, St.Gallen/Switzerland and in many countries worldwide.

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SIGVARIS® develops medical compression hosiery and socks, and is a global leader in compression therapy products that treat venous and lymphatic disorders like varicose veins, chronic vein insufficiency and deep vein thrombosis. www.sigvarisusa.com

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