



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IMRIS REPORTS RECORD ORDER BACKLOG AND GROSS PROFIT PERFORMANCE

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, May 4, 2009 - IMRIS Inc. (TSX: IM) ("IMRIS" or the "Company") today reported strong first quarter 2009 financial results highlighted by continued growth in sales and a significant increase in gross profit.

Q1 2009 Highlights:

- Order backlog increased to a record \$84.1 million - 145% higher than a year earlier
- Gross margin increased to 39% compared with 9.7% in Q1 2008
- Sales increased to \$4.8 million, 16% increase over Q1 2008
- Global expansion continued with sale of a second system in China, to Fudan University Huashan Hospital
- Subsequent to the quarter end, regulatory approval of IMRIS's integrated MR-Angio system received in Europe

"We had an excellent first quarter, marked by strong customer demand for IMRISneuro, significant improvements in gross profit, and solid progress advancing our integrated MR-Angio system toward commercial launch." said David Graves, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. "The results through the first quarter are tracking well in relation to our expectations and reflect our success in advancing our business in support of creating shareholder value."

Financial Highlights:

<i>(in Canadian dollars, unaudited)</i>	<i>Three months ended March 31</i>		<i>Change</i>
	2009	2008	
Sales	4,804,279	4,158,136	16%
Gross profit	1,847,811	402,023	360%
<i>Gross profit as % of sales</i>	38.5%	9.7%	--
Operating expenses	5,819,924	5,130,332	13%
Net loss	(3,631,047)	(4,404,512)	(18%)
Basic and diluted loss per share	(0.13)	(0.16)	(19%)
Cash, cash equivalents & accounts receivable	19,796,508	19,805,713 ¹	--
Total assets	38,874,301	39,848,770 ¹	(2%)

¹ At December 31.

First Quarter 2009 Results

Sales

Sales in the first quarter were \$4.8 million, representing an increase of 16% compared with the first quarter of 2008. The year over year increase was directly attributable to an increase in IMRISneuro system installations. Sales are primarily comprised of new system deliveries, as well as extended maintenance contracts. These maintenance contracts contributed \$0.3 million in the first quarter of 2009, compared with \$0.2 million during the same period in 2008.

Gross Profit

Gross profit was \$1.8 million in the first quarter of 2009, compared with \$0.4 million in the first quarter of 2008. These results include significant margin expansion with gross profit as a percentage of sales increasing to 38.5% in Q1 2009 compared from 9.7% in the first quarter of 2008. The strong improvement in 2009 reflects a shift from market penetration-based pricing to value-based pricing as IMRISneuro has become established as the global leader for intraoperative MR imaging. Lower direct costs associated with the components of the IMRISneuro system also contributed to the improved gross profit performance in 2009.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses increased to \$5.8 million in the first quarter of 2009 or by \$0.7 million from a year earlier. The overall increase is largely due to growth in the business. Costs associated with sales and marketing, customer support and operations, and research and development all increased from Q1 2008. Amortization also increased to \$0.5 million in the first quarter of 2009 from \$0.3 million a year earlier, due to additions to the Company's research and development test facilities.

Net Loss

The Company's first quarter 2009 net loss was \$3.6 million compared with \$4.4 million a year earlier. The improvement in the net loss is due primarily to the higher gross profit margins offset in part by additional operating expenses to fund growth in the business.

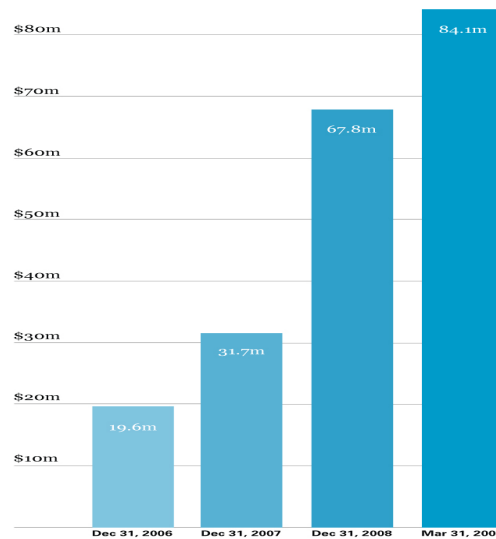
Liquidity and Capital Resources

Cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2009 were \$12.7 million. In addition the Company had accounts receivable of \$7.1 million, which are expected to be collected within the next 30 to 60 days. The value of these assets taken together is \$19.8 million compared with \$19.8 million at December 31, 2008. The Company believes that these assets, together with ongoing expected cash flow from operations including customer deposits on future orders should provide sufficient liquidity to meet the anticipated needs of ongoing operations and existing projects including funding of current research and development programs and budgeted capital asset expenditures.

Outlook

Order Backlog

In the first quarter of 2009, IMRIS received purchase orders for three new systems which contributed to the Company's order backlog increasing to a record \$84.1 million at March 31, 2009. Included in the current order backlog is the Fudan University Huashan Hospital in Shanghai, China. This hospital will be the first in Asia to take delivery of the new 3 Tesla version of IMRISneuro and the sale marks IMRIS's second project in China.



The order backlog is defined as the unrecognized portion of the revenues anticipated to be recorded from confirmed system orders, plus the next twelve months of revenues to be derived from executed service contracts.

At \$84.1million, the Company's order backlog has increased from \$67.8 million at December 31, 2008 and \$31.7 million at the end of 2007. IMRIS has achieved continuous backlog growth in the last eleven consecutive quarters, reflecting the growing recognition of IMRISneuro as the global surgical imaging solution of choice.

IMRIScardio and IMRISNV

During the quarter, IMRIS continued to advance its integrated MR-Angio system in support of two new applications. These applications include IMRIScardio which is expected to open up treatment opportunities for cardiovascular diseases and IMRISNV which is an integrated solution for the treatment of stroke and other neurovascular diseases. Regulatory approval for Europe has been received and FDA approval is expected by July 2009.

The Company's full financial statements as well as management's discussion and analysis will be available at www.sedar.com and www.imris.com.

Conference Call

Management will host a conference call to discuss the results at **4:00 p.m. ET on Monday, May 4, 2009**. Following management's presentation, there will be a question-and-answer session for analysts and institutional investors. To participate in the teleconference, please call **416-644-3423** or **1-800-731-5774**. To access the live audio webcast, please visit IMRIS's website at www.imris.com. A taped rebroadcast will be available to listeners following the call until midnight (ET) on May 11, 2009. To access the rebroadcast, please call 416-640-1917 or 1-877-289-8525 and enter passcode 21303670#. The webcast will also be archived on IMRIS's website.

About IMRIS

IMRIS (TSX: IM) is a global leader in providing fully integrated, advanced surgical imaging solutions. The company's flagship product, IMRISneuro, utilizes patented technology that allows a high field MRI scanner to be moved in to the operating room on demand, providing imaging during the surgical procedure without compromising patient safety. This unique and innovative system has been validated by leading neurosurgeons for use in world-class neuroscience centers.

For more information, visit www.imris.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release may contain or refer to forward-looking information based on current expectations. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as "anticipate", "may", "expect", "believe", "prospective", "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. These statements should not be understood as guarantees of future performance or results. Such statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from those implied by such statements. Although such statements are based on management's reasonable assumptions, there can be no assurance that actual results will be consistent with such statements. Forward-looking statements are subject to significant risks and uncertainties, and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expected results. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date hereof and we assume no responsibility to update or revise them to reflect new events or circumstances.

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