



January 23, 2001

# Japanese Red Cross approves use of Gambro BCT's Trima® Automated Blood Collection System

Stockholm, Sweden, January 23, 2001 - Gambro AB (OM Stockholm Exchange: GAMBaST, GAMBbST), a leading international medical technology and healthcare company, today announced that the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) has approved the use of the Trima® Automated Blood Collection System for blood component collection.

Gambro BCT's advanced Trima system technology will allow blood centers in Japan to obtain leukoreduced platelets and plasma from a single donor in one collection procedure.

With more than 70 blood centers and over 6 million donors, the Japanese Red Cross Society is the sole supplier of blood collection and services in Japan. Founded in 1877, the JRCS supplies Japanese hospitals with more than 20 million units of blood components for transfusion each year. The majority of these units are collected through manual donation of whole blood, with more than 30% of donors contributing platelets and plasma through apheresis.

The JRCS, in cooperation with the national government and local authorities, promotes a nationwide blood donation program to ensure a continuous supply of blood products that are essential for medical treatment. The Society is recognized as among the foremost global medical services organizations, adopting advanced medical techniques to improve patient care throughout Japan and the world.

"Gambro BCT is proud that the Japan Red Cross Society has recognized the superior quality, performance and value demonstrated by the Trima system," says Hiroshi Kaji, President of Gambro K.K. "The Trima system's flexibility and ease of use simplifies collection procedures, while offering unparalleled donor safety and comfort. This represents a significant technological advance for blood collection in Japan."

David Perez, President of Gambro BCT says, "The adoption of the advanced Trima system by the Japanese Red Cross is a not only a milestone event for Gambro BCT, but is also key to Gambro's strategies and initiatives within Japan and Asia."

Gambro is a global medical technology and healthcare company with leading positions in renal care - services and products - and blood component technology. Gambro Healthcare is one of the leading providers of kidney dialysis services in the world with about 47,000 patients in 600 clinics worldwide. Gambro Renal Products comprises dialyzers, dialysis machines, blood lines and dialysis concentrates. Gambro BCT includes products for the separation and handling of blood components. The group, with revenue of approximately SEK 20 billion (USD 2.2 billion), has approximately 18,000 employees in some 40 countries.

#### Gambro AB

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## **Gambro BCT**

Gambro BCT's primary business area is blood bank technology, which includes products and services that enable blood centers to collect, purify, and store blood components. Gambro BCT provides products for automatic collection, apheresis technology, and leukoreduction of all blood components, as well as IT applications for blood centers/blood banks.

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