

# Nine month report January - September 2000: Continued good growth momentum but lower margins

- Total revenues increased by 14% (9%\*) to SEK 16,102 M. Operating earnings EBITDA was SEK 3,044 M corresponding to a margin of 18.9%. Earnings per share decreased by 17% to SEK 0.78 and cash earnings per share rose by 13% to SEK 5.85. Earnings per share including non-recurring items increased by 56% to SEK 3.66.
- Good third quarter growth, +18% (+9%\*), but margins lower than previous period, mainly due to higher cost levels affecting the US clinics operations.
- Continued strong expansion, +20% (+12%\*), for Gambro Healthcare especially in Europe.
- Sales increased by 7% (7%\*), for Gambro Renal Products, with a good third quarter, +11% (8%\*).
- Further good development for blood component technology, Gambro BCT. Revenues increased by 14% (7%\*), with a significant improvement in the third quarter, +17% (+11%\*).
- Good progress and accelerating investments in the Pathogen Eradication Technology project.
- Brad Nutter, President Gambro Healthcare, to leave Gambro.
- \*) currency adjusted

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Gambro's financial information is also available on the Internet: www.gambro.com

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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## **NINE MONTH REPORT JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2000**

For the Group, the third quarter 2000 included a continued growth of 18% (9%\*). Margins were lower than previous quarter mainly due to a drug price increase, the elimination of a separate drug reimbursement and increased labor costs affecting the US clinics operations. Also currency effects have had a negative impact on the Group margins. The PET development project has made good progress and been supported by accelerated investments. Operating margin (EBITDA) for the Group was 17.6%. Gambro Healthcare has expanded by 23% (11%\*) including an expansion in Europe by 59%. The sales momentum in Gambro Renal Products has continued, especially on markets outside Europe. Revenues increased by 11% (8%\*). For Gambro BCT revenues were up 17% (11%\*).

In total, the first nine months 2000 for the Group have included a revenue growth of 14% (9%\*). This includes an expansion in Gambro Healthcare with 20% (12%\*). Strategically the pace of US clinics acquisitions has been reduced towards the end of the period. Gambro Renal Products had a continued sales development with revenues growing by 7% (7%\*) with a positive development in Europe, strong growth outside Europe as well as for internal sales which are up with more than 40%. For Gambro BCT revenues increased by 14% (7%\*) with a strong development at the end of the period. The PET project has had a promising development and has been supported by higher investments. For the Group, margins during the period have been negatively affected by the higher cost level in Gambro Healthcare, currency effects as well as by the increased R&D investments in the PET projects. Operating margin (EBITDA) for the Group was 18.9%.

Key data, present structure (excluding non-recurring items)

	lonuor	v Sont	Oct 1999	Full year
OFKM		y - Sept		•
SEK M	2000	1999	- Sept 2000	1999
Revenues	16,102	14,501	21,344	19,743
Operating earnings b. depreciation	3,044	2,748	4,057	3,761
%	18.9	18.9	19.0	19.0
Operating earnings (EBIT)	1,297	1,278	1,771	1,752
%	8.1	8.8	8.3	8.9
Earnings after financial items (EBT)	853	950	1,244	1,341
Earnings per share (EPS) SEK 1)	0.78	0.94	1.24	1.40
Earnings per share (EPS) SEK 1)				
including non-recurring items	3.66	2.35	5.97	4.66
Cash earnings per share (CEPS) SEK 2	5.85	5.20	7.88	7.23
Cash flow from operations <sup>3</sup>	516	1,167	845	1,496
Net debt	7,332	3,851	7,332	4,632

<sup>1)</sup> After full tax

<sup>\*)</sup> currency adjusted

Net income plus depreciation and amortization divided by number of shares

<sup>3)</sup> Cash flow before acquisitions and taxes



### THE GROUP

On July 1, 2000 Sören Mellstig took up the position as President and CEO of Gambro after having been Executive Vice President of Gambro and responsible for the business area Gambro Renal Products.

While Gambro's strategy and direction remain unchanged, additional corporate support and thrust will be given to the business areas to further exploit their global leading positions and inherent growth potential. Also more focus will be given to joint business opportunities between the business areas. Resources will also be allocated to explore business venture opportunities outside existing business areas, building on external as well as internal technology capabilities.

## **BUSINESS AREAS**

### **Gambro Healthcare**

Third quarter 2000 included a revenue growth of 23% (11% currency adjusted) and revenues rose to SEK 3,313 M (2,745). Expansion in Europe has included acquisitions of clinics and a good underlying organic growth. In the US the new management is focusing on reorganization including decentralization to better leverage on internal capabilities for increased quality and business performance. Thus the pace of acquisition of new clinics has been slowed.

In total for the first nine months 2000, revenues rose to SEK 9,325 M (7,985), an increase of 20% (currency adjusted 12%). The European clinics operations expanded by 48% thanks to acquisitions of clinics and a good underlying organic growth. In total the international clinics operations continued to show a good financial performance. A continued positive development is reported from among others Italy, Portugal, Spain and France. As previously announced the US clinics operations have been negatively affected by the price increase in Epogen and the elimination of a separate drug reimbursement. Also labor costs have been high. This has more than offset the positive impact of the increase in Medicare reimbursement introduced at the beginning of the year.

In the clinics operation expansion is based on organic growth, establishment of new clinics as well as acquisition of clinics. Acquisitions are made on a strategically selective basis. During the period especially the expansion in Europe has been supported by acquisitions. During the nine-month period Gambro has acquired a total of 14 clinics with about 1,130 patients in Europe, eight clinics with about 820 patients in the US and two clinics in Argentina with about 100 patients. The European clinic acquisitions include five clinics in Spain in the regions of Barcelona and Valencia, one clinic in Italy in the Lazio region and eight clinics in Portugal. The latter includes a major acquisition in July of seven clinics with 630 patients in the Lisbon area. The period has also included several buyouts of minorities in partly owned clinics and the establishment of 22 new own clinics.

At the close of the period the total number of patients treated worldwide in 625 clinics owned, operated or managed by Gambro was about 47,000. In the US Gambro owns, operates or manages 503 clinics. The total number of treatments given to patients in clinics consolidated by Gambro was 4,802,000. The corresponding average revenue per treatment (excluding non-dialysis clinics) was SEK 1,922, corresponding to USD 215. Treatment volumes rose by 14%.



In July definitive settlement agreements were entered into, resolving all corporate matters covered by investigations into the Medicare billing practices of laboratory services. While admitting no liability, the total settlement amount was USD 53.2 M (SEK 455 M), of which USD 20.3 M (SEK 167 M) was paid in 1999. During the third quarter Medicare billing was discontinued until the billing system is operating entirely at an appropriate quality level. Recorded but unbilled Medicare laboratory revenues for 1998 and 1999 amount to USD 19 M (net after provisions) and for 2000 to USD 31 M.

In order to improve the business performance in the US clinics operations, a reorganization has been made including the strengthening and recruitment of new management. In May a new position as President, Gambro Healthcare US, was created and Larry C. Buckelew was recruited for this position. In September he established a new organization including three Division Presidents responsible for the Eastern, Central and Western regions of the US. The reorganization also includes decentralization moves with more responsibilities and support for the individual clinic. Stronger emphasis is given to the quality of care and the development of personnel. A special focus is set on the business performance, which is expected to be stable during the rest of the year. In the ordinary yearly audit review special attention will be given to the goodwill in Gambro Healthcare in view of the present somewhat reduced profitability.

### **Gambro Renal Products**

Third quarter 2000 has been characterized by a further increased revenue growth of 11% (8% currency adjusted) with revenues rising to SEK 2,076 M (1,916) for same structure. This has included a continued good sales growth on the main European markets as well as on international markets. Internal sales increased for the seventh quarter in a row. The launch of new products has continued.

In total for the first nine months 2000, revenues amounted to SEK 6,181 M (5,882). This represents an increase of 7% for present structure (currency adjusted 7%). Sales have continued to develop favorably on the main markets in Europe. This includes good sales on important markets such as Italy, France, Germany and Portugal. Also sales on main international markets in Asia and the Americas have increased substantially. Thus good sales development has been reported for important markets such as Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Internal sales grew by 41%. Major product categories, including both equipment and disposables, had a good development. The strong demand for monitors, both the Gambro AK series and the Hospal Integra series, as well as for synthetic dialyzers has continued.

Overall Gambro Renal Products has developed according to the plans and directions established in the change program initiated early last year. This program includes both short-term efforts to improve efficiency and reduce costs as well as investments in new products, production capacity, etc. Also sales and marketing efforts have been strengthened.

The good growth in sales volumes during the period is mainly attributable to efforts within the framework of this change program. Increased sales and marketing activities have resulted in a good sales growth supported by extended manufacturing capacity. Also manufacturing has proceeded with high efficiency and a good capacity utilization.



The development of new products is a major component in the change program and considerable investments have been made in new products. Efforts include new, innovative and platform based product families, new generations of existing products and the phase-out of overlapping products. The new product generations form a base for a more efficient production, procurement and logistics structure.

During this year and the next significant launches of new products have been and will be made. A new monitor for hemodialysis was recently presented at the American Society of Nephrologists meeting in October 2000 and it was very well received. The monitor has earlier received FDA clearance for sale in the US and is presently under marketing trials. A new generation of synthetic dialyzers is presently in clinical trials and will be introduced on the market next year.

#### Gambro BCT

Revenues during the quarter rose to SEK 388 M (330), representing an increase of 17% (currency adjusted 11%). US sales were particularly strong and sales increases continued in the major markets of the UK, France, Spain, and Canada, as well as Australia, Korea, China and Taiwan. Sales performance in Japan, while improved, continues to not meet expectations. On the whole, sales growth has been lower than previous years, mainly due to a generally lower growth in the platelet collection market and slow adoption of universal leukoreduction.

In total for the nine month period, revenues for Gambro BCT were SEK 1,113 M (978) representing an increase of 14% (7% currency adjusted). This has included a good sales development on major markets in Europe as well as in the US.

Gambro BCT continues to develop a leadership position within the Blood Banking Technology market through automated blood collection, leukoreduction, pathogen eradication technology and electronic business solutions. The Trima Automated Collection System is growing in market recognition, with a strong system and disposable sales during the third quarter. Third quarter disposable set sales increased by 63% over the previous quarter. Significantly, sales of the red blood cell, platelet, plasma disposable sets increased by 64% over second quarter, indicating the conversion of whole blood donors to automated blood collection is gaining acceptance.

An important factor in this growth is the combination of an innovative account management process introduced earlier in the year, and the automation capabilities offered by the Trima system. Gambro BCT's worldwide field-based sales and implementation consultants work closely with blood centers and hospitals to develop solutions to the complex problems they face. Demand for blood products is increasing, while the number of eligible donors continues to decrease, resulting in critical shortages of blood components. Increasingly, throughout the world, leukoreduction of all blood products is becoming the standard of patient care. More and stricter regulations are affecting blood center productivity. Utilizing the automation offered by the Trima system, in conjunction with Gambro BCT's consultative support, blood centers can collect more leukoreduced blood components - red blood cells, platelets and plasma - from fewer donors. Implementation support includes providing guidelines for regulatory compliance and process control.



## Therapeutic Specialties

Gambro BCT continues to maintain worldwide market leadership in therapeutic apheresis and cell therapy. Sales of the Spectra Apheresis System and disposable sets for collection of blood components and therapeutic applications continue to be strong. Disposable unit growth for the company in this market has been very strong, with a 13% increase year to date in European markets, and an overall 6% year to date increase worldwide. The company's strategy is to deliver a broad range of cellular and plasma therapies and services for the treatment of cancer, congenital and immune disorders, through innovation in cell collections, ex vivo cell manipulation and graft engineering.

## Pathogen Eradication Technology (PET)

Key partner selection is critical for successful development, manufacturing and distribution of PET products into the world's blood banking market. In July, Gambro BCT entered into a research agreement with Sanquin, the blood authority in the Netherlands. Sanquin will validate inactivation performance and the quality of proteins and cells. Sanquin is an innovative blood organization managing blood collection and plasma fractionation processes. Their expertise in the plasma fractionation business has led them to develop expertise in testing and validating viral inactivation processes.

Gambro BCT Vice President of R&D, Frank Corbin, is now focusing specifically on the PET technology. Mr. Corbin has successfully lead development and business programs in Gambro for over 25 years in both the dialysis, cardiovascular and blood component technology businesses. Also joining the PET team is Bill Duffel Jr. Ph.D., Vice President of Regulatory Affairs. Dr. Duffel's experience leading global clinical trials and regulatory submissions for Cyberonics Inc. and other large pharmaceutical companies strengths the skills in the PET management team. Gambro is committed to building a strong management team capable of delivering PET products to the global blood market.

Gambro BCT will release new PET information at the American Association of Blood Bank (AABB) meeting in Washington DC. This scientific meeting will include four oral presentation and one written poster on the PET technology. This information will be available on the Gambro BCT website in November, www.gambrobct.com.

On August 21, David Perez was appointed President of Gambro BCT. He has held leadership and management positions in companies providing blood banking services and products, physician practice management and home therapy services. Before joining Gambro BCT, Perez was Vice President Operations of UroTherapies Western Operations with responsibility for sales, operations and service. David Perez has been a member of the Gambro BCT business management council, and Vice President U.S. Sales and Global Marketing, playing a key role in helping the company continue its global leadership in therapeutic apheresis and expand into the worldwide blood bank technology marketplace.



### THE RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM

The restructuring program initiated mid January 1999 has proceeded according to plan. As of September 30, 2000 about 975 employees had left the group through cutbacks, reorganization and divestitures of operations. Approximately SEK 755 M (of which 36% is non-cash) has been used of the provision of SEK 1,100 M that was made during the fourth quarter 1998. During the year SEK 163 M has been utilized, of which SEK 64 M during the third quarter.

### **INVESTMENTS**

Group investments during the period amounted to SEK 1,106 M (1,120) net. Third quarter investments amounted to SEK 507 M (409) net.

### **ACQUISITIONS**

Group acquisitions during the period amounted to SEK 1,034 M (721). Third quarter acquisitions amounted to SEK 215 M (146). Acquisitions included 24 clinics with some 2,050 patients in the US and RoW. During the first quarter 2000 Gambro also participated in the HemaSure rights issue with about USD 8.9 M (SEK 77 M). Several buyouts of minorities in partly owned clinics have also been performed.

#### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

Net debt (loans and accruals for pension less cash and short-term investments) amounted to SEK 7,332 M at the close of the period, which represents an increse of SEK 2,700 M for the nine month period. The increase is explained by cash flow from operations SEK 814 M, acquisitions SEK -1,034 M, taxes paid SEK -1,231 M, dividend paid SEK -379 M, currency effects SEK -600 M and other SEK -270 M. The increase of SEK 1,746 M in the quarter is exlained by cash flow from operations SEK -29 M, acquisitions SEK -215 M, taxes paid SEK -824 M, currency effect SEK -465 M and other SEK -213 M. Average net debt during the period amounted to some SEK 5,800 M, resulting in an average interest rate of 8.3% (adjusted for interest not attributable to items in the net debt).

Earnings from associated companies, SEK -38 M, mainly refer to shareholdings in HemaSure and MacGREGOR. A dividend from the shareholding in ABB Ltd. (disposed of in the second quarter) of SEK 10 M was included in the first quarter.

During the period a tax dispute in the US has been settled, resulting in an interest charge on the payment of USD 2.5 M (SEK 23 M), which is included in the financial net.

The equity/assets ratio at the close of the period was 60%.

## **PERSONNEL**

The total number of employees in the Gambro group increased by 817 during the period. By the end of the period the total number of employees was 18,103.



#### **OTHER**

Brad Nutter, President of Gambro Healthcare, has decided to leave his position for personal reasons effective November 1, 2000. Temporarily, Sören Mellstig, President and CEO of Gambro, will replace Nutter as President of Gambro Healthcare. This means that Larry C. Buckelew, President Gambro Healthcare US, Terry Gilpin, President Gambro Healthcare International, and Kevin Smith, CFO, will report direct to him.

Stockholm, October 26, 2000

Sören Mellstig President and CEO

This report has not been subject to examination by the Company's auditors.

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Coming report etc.:

Year end report 2000: February 15, 2001 Annual General Meeting: March 21, 2001



## Revenues by business area

	Janua	ry - Sept	Change	e in % <sup>1)</sup>	Full year
SEK M	2000	1999	Nominal C	Currency adj.	1999
Gambro Healthcare	9,325	7,763	20	12	10,608
Gambro Renal Products	6,181	5,753	7	7	7,870
Intra-Group	-517	-344	<b>4</b> 9	41	-503
Total, Renal Care	14,989	13,172	14	9	17,975
Gambro BCT	1,113	978	14	7	1,359
Total, present structure	16,102	14,150	14	9	19,334
Major divestitures	-	351			409
Total	16,102	14,501	11		19,743

<sup>1)</sup> For present structure

## Revenues by market

	Janua	January - Sept		nge in % 1)
SEK M	2000	1999	Nominal	Currency adj.
Europe	4,510	4,351	4	7
Americas	10,387	8,801	18	9
Asia, Pacific, RoW	1,205	998	21	16
Total, present structure	16,102	14,150	14	9
Major divestitures	-	351		
Total	16,102	14,501	11	

<sup>1)</sup> For present structure



# GAMBRO GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

SEK M	January - 2000	September 1999	Oct 1999 - Sept 2000	Full year 1999
Revenues	16,102	14,501	21,344	19,743
Operating expenses 1), 2)	-14,740	-12,412	-19,767	-17,439
Operating earnings (EBIT)	1,362	2,089	1,577	2,304
Financial items, net	-444	-328	-527	-411
Earnings after financial items (EBT)	918	1,761	1,050	1,893
Taxes	387	-899	1,070	-216
Minority interest	-45	-52	-65	-72
Net income	1,260	810	2,055	1,605
Earnings before depreciation and amortization (EBITDA)	3,109	3,558	3,864	4,313
2) Of which, non-recurring items				
result from divestitures provision for repayment of lab. billing	628 -563	966 <u>-155</u>	493 -687	831 -279
	65	811	-194	552
amortization, goodwill	-747	-647	-991	-891
depreciation, other assets	-1,000	-823	-1,295	-1,118



# QUARTERLY DATA PER SEGMENT

Present structure

		200	00		1		1999		
SEK M	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Total	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Revenues									
Gambro Renal Products	1,976	2,129	2,076	6,181	1,922	2,045	1,916	2,177	8,060
Gambro Healthcare	2,948	3,064	3,313	9,325	2,514	2,726	2,745	2,843	10,828
Gambro BCT	352	373	388	1,113	310	338	330	378	1,356
Intra-group	-162	-166	-189	-517	-92	-119	-134	-156	-501
Total Revenues	5,114	5,400	5,588	16,102	4,654	4,990	4,857	5,242	19,743
Operating earnings - before depr. (EBITDA)									
Products (GRP + BCT)	452	517	468	1,437					
Healthcare	538	527	543	1,608					
Non recurring items	-	65 <sup>1)</sup>	-	65 <sup>1)</sup>					
Other	-5	30 <sup>2)</sup>	-26	<b>-1</b> <sup>2)</sup>					
Total operating earnings - before depr. (EBITDA)	985	1,139	985	3,109	878	1,914	766	755	4,313
Do margin %	19.3	21.1	17.6	19.3	18.9	38.4	15.8	14.4	21.8
Do excl non recurring %	19.3	19.9	17.6	18.9	18.9	19.0	19.0	19.3	19.0
Operating earnings - after depr. (EBIT)									
Products (GRP + BCT)	275	333	284	892					
Healthcare	168	144	130	442					
Non recurring items	-	65 <sup>1)</sup>	-	65 <sup>1)</sup>					
Other	-11	25 <sup>2)</sup>	-51	-37 <sup>2)</sup>					
Total operating earnings - after depr. (EBIT)	432	567	363	1,362	406	1,409	274	215	2,304
Do margin %	8.4	10.5	6.5	8.5	8.7	28.2	5.6	4.1	11.7
Do Excl non recurring %	8.4	9.3	6.5	8.1	8.7	8.9	8.8	9.0	8.9
Financial net									
Interest net	-111	-105	-169	-385	-128	-95	-84	-101	-408
Other financial items	0	-37	-22	-59	-15	0	-6	18	-3
Financial net	-111	-142	-191	-444	-143	-95	-90	-83	-411
Earnings before tax (EBT)	321	425	172	918	263	1,314	184	132	1,893

1)	Result from divestitures	628
	Settlement of lab. review	<u>-563</u>
		65

2) Operating earnings includes income of SEK 42 M representing the present value of a receivable on the Swedish pension institution SPP as a result of excess returns on pension fund management. Excluding this item and non recurring items the margins are as follows:

	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Total</u>
EBITDA	19.1%	18.6%
EBIT	8.5%	7.8%



# **GAMBRO GROUP BALANCE SHEET**

SEK M	Sept 30, 2000	Sept 30, 1999	Dec 31, 1999
ASSETS			
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	18,561	15,515	16,410
Property, plant and equipment	6,394	5,340	5,515
Shares and participations	368	347	417
Long-term receivables	871	454	668
Total fixed assets	26,194	21,656	23,010
Current assets			
Inventories	2,485	2,228	2,217
Trade receivables	6,395	5,620	5,940
Other current receivables	2,412	2,308	2,147
Liquid assets	528	589	606
Total current assets	11,820	10,745	10,910
TOTAL ASSETS	38,014	32,401	33,920
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Shareholders' equity 1)	22,574	17,959	19,655
Minority interests	186	132	192
Accruals	2,910	3,411	3,412
Long-term liabilities	5,948	1,628	2,146
Current liabilities	6,396	9,271	8,515
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	38,014	32,401	33,920
NET DEBT	7,332	3,851	4,632

<sup>1)</sup> Total number of shares outstanding 344,653,288 (of which, Series A: 250,574,090, Series B: 94,079,198)



# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

SEK M	January 2000	- September 1999	Full year 1999
Operating activities			
Earnings after financial items (excl. non-recurring items)	853	950	1,341
Non-cash items <sup>1)</sup>	131	974	1,009
	984	1,924	2,350
Taxes paid	-1,231	-834	-1,843
	-247	1,090	507
Changes in operating capital: 2)			
Inventories	-268	54	-205
Receivables	-923	396	-193
Liabilities	543	-1,916	-1,179
Cash flow from operating activities	-895	-376	-1,070
Investment activities			
Capital expenditure	-1,184	-1,178	-1,667
Disposals	78	58	138
Acquisitions / divestitures net 3	-406	245	571
Cash flow from investment activities	-1,512	-875	-958
Financing activities			
Change in short term loans	-1,044	578	817
Change in long term loans	3,802	446	964
Change in accruals for pensions	-25	5	46
Dividend paid	-379	-344	-344
Change in financing activities	2,354	685	1,483
Cash flow this period	-53	-566	-545
Liquid assets opening balance	606	1,169	1,169
Currency effect in liquid assets	-25	-14	-18
Liquid assets closing balance	528	589	606
1) Of which:			
<ul><li>Depreciation/Amortization</li></ul>	1,747	1,469	2,009
<ul><li>Translation differences</li><li>Lab. provision</li></ul>	-564 -563	-12 -155	-727 -279
Tax provision	-480	-	-
– Other	-9	328	6
2) Of which change in operating working capital	-978	-133	-325
<ol> <li>For previous periods the figures are restated net of acquisitions and divestitures</li> </ol>			

## **PRESS RELEASE**





## **Brad Nutter to leave Gambro Healthcare**

Stockholm, Sweden, October 26, 2000 - Gambro AB (OM Stockholm Exchange: GAMBaST, GAMBbST), a leading international medical technology and healthcare company, today announced that Brad Nutter, President of Gambro Healthcare, has decided to leave his position as of November 1, 2000. Nutter is leaving for personal reasons. Sören Mellstig, President and CEO of Gambro, will serve as acting President of Gambro Healthcare. This means that Larry C. Buckelew, President Gambro Healthcare US, Terry Gilpin, President Gambro Healthcare International, and Kevin Smith, CFO, will report direct to him.

"I do regret that I have to take this step", says Brad Nutter. "However, I am pleased with the progress we have made during the year. A new strategy has been established, a new management structure is in place, a new organization is being set up in the US, and we managed to settle the laboratory issue in a very short time. I am confident that we have established a good base for a future good development for Gambro Healthcare."

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