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## Share buyback of CHF 50 million

- **Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders on October 2, 2008**
- **Free issuance of tradable put options to existing shareholders**
- **Share buyback to be launched in November and concluded in December 2008**

**Wattwil, September 11, 2008.** COLTENE Holding AG (SIX Swiss Exchange [formerly SWX Swiss Exchange]: CLTN), an internationally leading developer and manufacturer of dental consumables plans to return approximately CHF 50 million to its shareholders by the end of the year. The Board of Directors will propose to an Extraordinary General Meeting on October 2, 2008 to buy back own shares in the amount of approximately CHF 50 million by issuing tradable put options to existing shareholders gratuitously and proposes to reduce the share capital by a maximum of CHF 46,100 to not less than CHF 421,900.

COLTENE Holding AG plans to return approximately CHF 50 million to its shareholders by the end of this year. After the sale of the medical business closed at the end of April 2008, COLTENE announced its intention to return the majority of the net cash proceeds of CHF 93.4 million to shareholders, given the strong cash flows generated by the ongoing dental business. By means of an increased dividend and a par value reduction, COLTENE has already returned CHF 42.1 million to its shareholders this year.

The Board of Directors will now propose to the Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders convened for October 2, 2008, to repurchase own shares in the amount of approximately CHF 50 million through the issuance of tradable put options gratuitously to the existing shareholders and to reduce the current share capital of CHF 468,000 by a maximum amount of CHF 46,100 to not less than CHF 421,900. The shares bought back in the context of this share buyback program are to be cancelled in order to accrete earnings per share. This shareholder-friendly program is planned to be launched in November and concluded in December 2008. The extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders takes place on October 2, 2008, at 10.00 a.m. at Seedamm-Plaza, Pfäffikon SZ. The registered shareholders will be invited personally.

**E-mail alerts:** Sign-up for e-mail alerts is available at [http://www.coltene.com/investor-relations/news\\_en.html](http://www.coltene.com/investor-relations/news_en.html)

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