

FRIEDMAN INDUSTRIES INC

Form 8-K

April 01, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **March 29, 2016**

Friedman Industries, Incorporated

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas

1-07521

74-1504405

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(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification
No.)

19747 Hwy 59 N., Suite 200

Humble, Texas

77338

(Address of principal executive
offices)

713-672-9433

(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area
code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers

Effective April 1, 2016, William E. Crow will no longer serve as President of Friedman Industries, Incorporated (the “Company”). Mr. Crow will continue to serve as Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

On March 29, 2016, Robert Sparkman, age 60, was elected by the Board of Directors of the Company to serve as President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company, effective April 1, 2016. Mr. Sparkman has served as the Company’s Senior Vice President of Operations since April 1, 2015. Mr. Sparkman previously served as Vice President of Sales for the Company’s coil division between 2002 and March 2015 and has been employed by the Company since 1979, providing him with over 36 years of experience with both the Company’s coil and tubular divisions.

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13,615,995 66.7% 5,074,668

Xmark Funds ⁽⁶⁾

6,401,609 24.4% 3,000,000

SDS Merchant Fund, L.P. ⁽⁷⁾

3,418,377 14.7% 1,432,500

North Sound Legacy Funds ⁽⁸⁾

1,750,000 8.1% 750,000

* Less than 1%.

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and includes generally voting power and/or investment power with respect to securities. Shares of common stock subject to options or warrants currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of September 30, 2003, are deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the person holding such options or warrants but are not deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of any other person. Except as indicated by footnote, we believe that the persons named in this table, based on information provided by such persons, have sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares of common stock indicated.
- (2) Shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding options and warrants.
- (3) Dr. Gonella owns a controlling interest in Permatec Holding AG and, therefore, exercises voting and investment control for the entity.
- (4) The director s or officer s address is 707 Eagleview Boulevard, Suite 414, Exton, PA 19341.
- (5) The address of Permatec Holding AG is Hauptstrasse 16, 4132 Muttenz, Switzerland.
- (6) The address of the Xmark Funds is 152 West 57th Street, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10022. The number of shares beneficially owned by the Xmark Funds include shares owned by Xmark Fund, L.P. and by Xmark Fund, Ltd. and includes shares issuable to those entities upon exercise of warrants and conversion of our Series D Convertible Preferred Stock. The warrants are exercisable, and the Series D stock is convertible, by any holder only to the extent that the number of shares of common stock issuable pursuant to such securities, together with the number of shares of common stock owned by such holder and its affiliates (but not including shares of common stock underlying unexercised shares of warrants or unconverted shares of Series D stock) would not exceed 9.99% of the then outstanding common stock as determined in accordance with Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act. Each holder may, upon providing us with 61 days written notice, waive

this 9.99% cap on exercises or conversions. The number of shares listed for the Xmark Funds does not take into account this issuance limitation.

- (7) The address of SDS Merchant Fund, L.P. is 53 Forest Avenue, Second Floor, Old Greenwich, CT 06870. The number of shares beneficially owned by SDS includes shares issuable to it upon exercise of warrants and conversion of our Series D Convertible Preferred Stock. The warrants are exercisable, and the Series D stock is convertible, by any holder only to the extent that the number of shares of common stock issuable pursuant to such securities, together with the number of shares of common stock owned by such holder and its affiliates (but not including shares of common stock underlying unexercised shares of warrants or unconverted shares of Series D stock) would not exceed 9.99% of the then outstanding common stock as determined in accordance with Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act. Each holder may, upon providing us with 61 days written notice, waive this 9.99% cap on exercises or conversions. The number of shares listed for SDS does not take into account this issuance limitation.
- (8) The address of the North Sound Legacy Funds is 53 Forest Avenue, Second Floor, Old Greenwich, CT 06870. The number of shares beneficially owned by the North Sound Legacy Funds include shares owned by North Sound Legacy Fund LLC, North Sound Legacy Institutional Fund LLC and North Sound Legacy International, Ltd. and includes shares issuable to the North Sound funds upon exercise of warrants. The warrants are exercisable by any holder only to the extent that the number of shares of common stock issuable pursuant to the warrants, together with the number of shares of common stock owned by such holder and its affiliates (but not including shares of common stock underlying unexercised shares of warrants) would not exceed 9.99% of the then outstanding common stock as determined in accordance with Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act. Each holder may, upon providing us with 61 days written notice, waive this 9.99% cap on exercises or conversions. The number of shares listed for the North Sound funds does not take into account this issuance limitation.

Change of Control

On January 30, 2001, we completed a transaction whereby our predecessor, Mediject Corporation, merged with Permamec AG, and our name was changed to Antares Pharma, Inc. Upon completion of that transaction, Jacques Gonella, the principal owner of Permamec, became the beneficial owner of approximately 67% of the outstanding shares of our common stock. As a result, since that time, Dr. Gonella has been able to control generally the direction of our company, and has held the controlling vote in all matters submitted for a vote to our shareholders. Following the completion of two private placements of our common stock in July 2003 and the exchange by certain investors of our debentures for shares of our Series D Convertible Preferred Stock (which is convertible into common stock), Dr. Gonella no longer beneficially owns a majority of our common stock. As of the record date, he owned approximately 44% of our common stock. In the two private placements, we sold an aggregate of 4,000,000 shares of our common stock and warrants to purchase 3,000,000 shares of our common stock to several investors. Three of those investors, Xmark Funds, LP, XMark Funds, Ltd. and SDS Merchant Fund LP, also own shares of our Series D Convertible Preferred Stock, which is convertible into shares of our common stock. These investors also own additional warrants exercisable for our common stock. The warrants are exercisable, and the Series D stock is convertible, by any holder only to the extent that the number of shares of common stock issuable pursuant to such securities, together with the number of shares of common stock owned by such holder and its affiliates (but not including shares of common stock underlying unexercised shares of warrants or unconverted shares of Series D stock) would not exceed 9.99% of the then outstanding common stock as determined in accordance with Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act. Each holder may, upon providing us with 61 days written notice, waive this 9.99% cap on exercises or conversions. Without taking this issuance limitation into account, if the Xmark funds and SDS Merchant Fund converted all of their Series D stock and exercised all

of their warrants, they would own approximately 37% of our common stock. At present no single shareholder or group of shareholders owns in excess of 50% of our common stock.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation

The following table provides certain summary information concerning compensation paid or accrued by us (or Medi-Ject, our predecessor, prior to January 31, 2001) to or on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer and the four other most highly compensated executive officers (the Named Executive Officers) as of the year ended December 31, 2002, for services in all capacities as well as compensation earned by such person for the previous two fiscal years (if the person was an executive officer during any part of such fiscal year):

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

Name and Principal Position	Fiscal Year	Annual Compensation			Long-Term Compensation	
		Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Other Annual Compensation (\$)(1)	Stock Options (#)	Restricted Stock (\$)
Dr. Roger Harrison, Chief Executive Officer and President	2002	275,000		18,000	5,625	155,000
	2001	221,939(2)		14,250		186,000
Franklin Pass, M.D., Former Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President	2002	228,000		23,336	7,500	
	2001	228,000(3)	50,000	23,336	30,000	
	2000	228,300	12,000	39,798	10,000	
Lawrence Christian, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, and Vice President, Finance	2002	145,600			7,500	
	2001	140,655	17,000		20,000	
	2000	114,833	12,000		10,000	
Dr. Dario Carrara, Managing Director-Formulations Group	2002	160,500		100,100	7,500	
	2001(4)(6)	123,456	9,037	57,157	60,000	
Dr. Peter Sadowski, Chief Technology Officer and Vice President, Devices Group	2002	156,000		5,400	7,500	
	2001	150,000	17,000	5,400	50,000	
	2000	135,820	12,000		30,000	
Carlos Samayoa Assistant Secretary, Manager Finance and Administration - Formulations Group	2001(5)(6)	60,374	9,037		30,000	

- (1) Represents auto allowance payments and premiums paid for disability and life insurance policies with coverage limits in excess of those provided under our standard employee insurance policies.
- (2) Represents salary paid from employment date of March 12, 2001.

- (3) Franklin Pass served as chief executive officer until January 31, 2001 and has remained an employee of our company in a different capacity. The compensation shown is for the full year.
- (4) Represents compensation information from February 1, 2001, the date of the business combination.
- (5) Represents compensation information from February 1, 2001, the date of the business combination until Mr. Samayoa resigned on August 31, 2001.
- (6) Compensation for Dr. Carrara and Mr. Samayoa was in Swiss Francs converted to U.S. dollars at the Swiss Francs per U.S. dollar exchange rates of 1.6598 and 1.3833 at December 31, 2001 and 2002, respectively.

Dr. Jacques Gonella, the Chairman of our Board of Directors and our majority shareholder, has, in the past, received 5,000 stock options annually, in accordance with our director compensation policy. In the future, Dr. Gonella will be compensated in accordance with our new director compensation policy that was adopted on September 17, 2002 (see page 5). Effective February 1, 2001, we entered into a consulting agreement with JG Consulting AG, a company solely owned by Dr. Gonella. Under this agreement, we pay a monthly fee of \$15,500 to JG Consulting AG.

STOCK OPTIONS

Option Grants During 2002

The table below sets forth individual grants of stock options made to the Named Executive Officers during the year ended December 31, 2002.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number of Securities Underlying Options Granted(#)</u>	<u>Percent of Total Options Granted to Employees During the Year(%)</u>	<u>Exercise Price or Base Price/sh. (\$)</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>Potential Realizable Value at Assumed Annual Rates of Stock Price Appreciation for Option Term (1)</u>	
					<u>5%(\$)</u>	<u>10%(\$)</u>
Dr. Roger Harrison(2)	5,625	5.8	4.56	02/01/12	16,100	40,900
Franklin Pass, M.D.(2)	7,500	7.7	4.56	02/01/12	21,500	54,500
Lawrence Christian(2)	7,500	7.7	4.56	02/01/12	21,500	54,500
Dr. Dario Carrara(2)	7,500	7.7	4.56	02/01/12	21,500	54,500
Dr. Peter Sadowski(2)	7,500	7.7	4.56	02/01/12	21,500	54,500

- (1) The 5% and 10% assumed annual rates of compounded stock price appreciation are mandated by rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and do not represent our estimate or projection of our future common stock prices.
- (2) Incentive stock option granted pursuant to our 2001 Stock Option Plan on February 1, 2002. These options vest in three equal installments on February 1 of each of 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Aggregated Option Exercises in 2002 and Year End Option Values

The following table provides information concerning stock option exercises and the value of unexercised options at December 31, 2002 for the Named Executive Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)</u>	<u>Value Realized (\$)</u>	<u>Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options at Year End(#)</u>		<u>Value of Unexercised In-The-Money Options at Year End(\$)</u>	
			<u>Exercisable</u>	<u>Unexercisable</u>	<u>Exercisable</u>	<u>Unexercisable</u>
Dr. Roger Harrison	0	0		5,625		
Franklin Pass, M.D.	0	0	141,417	27,600		
Lawrence Christian	0	0	37,600	20,900		
Dr. Dario Carrara	0	0	19,800	47,700		
Dr. Peter Sadowski	0	0	64,907	41,000		

Performance Graph

The graph below provides an indication of cumulative total shareholder returns (Total Return) for our company as compared with the Nasdaq Composite Index and the Nasdaq Biotechnology Stocks weighted by market value at each measurement point. The graph covers the period beginning December 31, 1997, through December 31, 2002. The graph assumes \$100 was invested in each of our company's common stock, the Nasdaq Composite Index and the Nasdaq Biotechnology Stock Index on December 31, 1997 (based upon the closing price of each). Total Return assumes reinvestment of dividends.

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>1997</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>1998</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>1999</u>	<u>December 31</u> <u>2000</u>	<u>December 31</u> <u>2001</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2002</u>
Antares Pharma	\$ 100.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 217.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 21.00
Nasdaq Composite Index	100.00	139.63	259.13	157.32	124.20	85.05
Biotechnology Stocks	100.00	144.28	290.92	357.81	299.83	163.92

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE 2001 INCENTIVE

STOCK OPTION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES

(Item 2 on proxy card)

Our 2001 Incentive Stock Option Plan for Employees was adopted by our board and approved by our shareholders on June 7, 2001 and 600,000 shares of common stock are reserved for issuance. Our board has adopted, subject to shareholder approval, an amendment to the 2001 Incentive Plan to increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder from 600,000 shares to 2,000,000 shares, an increase of 1,400,000 shares. A copy of the 2001 Incentive Plan, incorporating all amendments made to date, including the amendment being submitted for shareholder approval, is attached as Exhibit A. As of October 7, 2003, there were 335,342 shares of common stock available for future option grants purchases under the 2001 Incentive Plan. However, on September 17, 2003, our Board of Directors granted a total of 1,196,250 options under this plan, and the grant was contingent on obtaining shareholder approval for the increase in authorized shares under the plan. Dr. Jacques Gonella and the Xmark Funds, who collectively owned approximately 52% of our voting stock as of the record date, have signed letters indicated their intent to vote in favor of the above described amendment.

The increase in the number of authorized shares under the 2001 Incentive Plan is necessary to enable us to continue to issue options to employees. The shareholders are being asked to approve this amendment to the 2001 Incentive Plan at the annual meeting.

The Board of Directors believes that stock option grants under the 2001 Incentive Plan are an important element in attracting and retaining highly skilled and qualified employees and, furthermore, that stock option grants are highly effective in aligning the interests of employees with those of the shareholders. Therefore, the Board of Directors believes that it is desirable to approve the authorization of additional shares under the 2001 Incentive Plan.

Purpose

The purpose of the 2001 Incentive Plan is to promote the interests of our company and our shareholders by aiding us in attracting and retaining employees capable of contributing to the growth and success of our company, and by offering such employees an opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in our company, thereby providing them with incentives to put forth maximum efforts for the success of our business and aligning the interests of such employees with those of our shareholders. Awards to be granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan are dependent upon performance and are not currently determinable. The following is a description of the material terms and conditions of the 2001 Incentive Plan.

Eligibility and Administration

The 2001 Incentive Plan is administered by our Board of Directors. A total of 600,000 shares of Common Stock were initially available and reserved for issuance upon the exercise of options granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan. All employees of our company or any subsidiary of our company are eligible to receive awards under the 2001 Incentive Plan. We currently have 30 employees. Awards under the 2001 Incentive Plan will be in the form of qualified stock

options and may not have a term greater than ten years (except for those awards issued to our Swiss employees, which have a term of 11 years and are not considered qualified options under the tax code).

The committee administering the 2001 Incentive Plan has the power to interpret and administer the 2001 Incentive Plan and establish rules under the 2001 Incentive Plan. The exercise price of awards granted will be equal to the market closing price on the day of the grant. The market closing price on October 1, 2003, the record date for this annual meeting proxy statement, was \$1.60. Under the 2001 Incentive Plan, participants exercising options may surrender shares of our common stock (previously owned by the participant) to us in payment of the exercise price thereunder. In the event any dividend, distribution, recapitalization, stock split, merger, consolidation or other event occurs that affects the options granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan, the committee administering the 2001 Incentive Plan may make such adjustments to awards under the 2001 Incentive Plan as it deems necessary to preserve the benefits intended under the 2001 Incentive Plan and such awards. Awards granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan are not transferable.

Termination

The 2001 Incentive Plan will expire on March 22, 2011, unless terminated earlier by the Board of Directors. No option may be granted after such termination, but termination of the 2001 Incentive Plan may not, without the consent of the optionee, alter or impair any rights or obligations under any option previously granted.

Federal Tax Considerations

The following is a summary of the principal United States of America federal income tax consequences generally applicable to options granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan:

Incentive Stock Options. No taxable income to a recipient will be realized, and we will not be entitled to any related deduction, at the time any incentive stock option is granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan. If certain statutory employment and holding period conditions are satisfied before the recipient disposes of shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of such an option, then no taxable income will result upon the exercise of such option, and we will not be entitled to any deduction in connection with such exercise. Upon disposition of the shares after expiration of the statutory holding periods, any gain or loss realized by a recipient will be a capital gain or loss. We will not be entitled to a deduction with respect to a disposition of the shares by a recipient after the expiration of the statutory holding periods.

Except in the event of death, if shares acquired by a recipient upon the exercise of an incentive stock option are disposed of by the recipient before the expiration of the statutory holding periods (a disqualifying disposition), the recipient will be considered to have realized compensation, taxed as ordinary income in the year of disposition, in an amount, not exceeding the gain realized on such disposition, equal to the difference between the exercise price and the fair market value of the shares on the date of exercise of the option. We will be entitled to a deduction at the same time and in the same amount as the recipient is deemed to have realized

ordinary income. Generally, any gain realized on the disposition in excess of the amount treated as compensation or any loss realized on the disposition will constitute capital gain or loss, respectively. If the recipient pays the option price with shares that were originally acquired pursuant to the exercise of an incentive stock option and the statutory holding periods for such shares have not been met, the recipient will be treated as having made a disqualifying disposition of such shares, and the tax consequences of such disqualifying disposition will be as described above.

The foregoing discussion applies only for regular tax purposes. For alternative minimum tax purposes, an incentive stock option will be treated as if it were a non-qualified stock option, the tax consequences of which are discussed below.

Non-qualified Stock Options. No taxable income to a recipient will be realized, and we will not be entitled to any related deduction, at the time any non-qualified stock option is granted under the 2001 Incentive Plan. Generally, at the time shares are transferred to the recipient pursuant to the exercise of a non-qualified stock option, the recipient will realize ordinary income, and we will be entitled to a deduction, equal to the excess of the fair market value of the stock on the date of exercise over the option price. Upon disposition of the shares, any additional gain or loss realized by the recipient will be treated as a capital gain or loss.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2002 with respect to compensation plans under which our equity securities are authorized for issuance to employees or non-employees in exchange for consideration in the form of goods or services.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	1,878,288	\$ 10.59	374,893
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders			
Total	1,878,288	\$ 10.59	374,893

Board Recommendation and Voting Requirements

Our Board recommends a vote FOR approval of the amendment to the 2001 Incentive plan. Provided a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the voting power of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote on this item and present, in person or by proxy, at the annual meeting is required for approval of the amendment to increase the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the 2001 Incentive Plan by 1,400,000 shares. Dr. Jacques Gonella and the Xmark Funds, who collectively own approximately 52% of our voting stock as of the record date, have signed letters indicating their intent to vote in favor of the amendment. Proxies solicited by our board will be voted for approval of the amendment, unless shareholders specify otherwise in their proxies.

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE 2001 STOCK OPTION PLAN

FOR NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTORS AND CONSULTANTS

(Item 3 on proxy card)

Our 2001 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors and Consultants was adopted by our board and approved by our shareholders on June 7, 2001 and 200,000 shares of common stock are reserved for issuance. Our board has adopted, subject to shareholder approval, an amendment to the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan to increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder from 200,000 shares to 600,000 shares, an increase of 400,000 shares. A copy of the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan, incorporating all amendments made to date, including the amendment being submitted for shareholder approval, is attached as Exhibit B. As of October 1, 2003, there were 125,586 shares of common stock available for future option grants purchases under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan.

The increase in the number of authorized shares under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan is necessary to enable us to continue to issue options to our directors under our newly adopted compensation plan for directors, described on page 5. The shareholders are being asked to approve this amendment to the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan at the annual meeting.

Purpose

The intent of the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan is to only compensate non-employee directors and/or consultants with non-qualified stock options. The purpose of the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan is to promote the interests of our company and our shareholders by aiding us in attracting and retaining non-employee directors and/or consultants capable of contributing to the growth and success of, and providing strategic direction to our company, and by offering such non-employee directors and/or consultants an opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in our company, thereby providing them with incentives to put forth maximum efforts for the success of our business and aligning the interests of such non-employee directors and/or consultants with those of our shareholders.

Eligibility and Administration

The 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors. All members of the Board of Directors who are not otherwise employees of our company or any of our subsidiaries are eligible to receive awards under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan. Awards are in the form of nonqualified stock options and may not have a term greater than 10 years.

Awards granted under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan for non-employee directors will be in the form of options to purchase our common stock and will be made each year as follows:

- an option to purchase 5,000 shares to the Chairman of the Board;
- an option to purchase 15,000 shares to each director;
- an option to purchase 2,000 shares to the Chair of the Audit Committee;
- an option to purchase 1,000 shares to each member of a committee of the board;
- an option to purchase 2,000 shares to each director for each meeting of the board attended in person;
- an option to purchase 1,000 shares to each member of the Audit Committee for each meeting of such committee attended in person;
- an option to purchase 500 shares for each telephonic meeting of the board attended; and
- an option to purchase 500 shares for each telephonic meeting of the Audit Committee attended.

All options granted pursuant to the plan above will have exercise prices equal to the market price of our common stock on the date of grant. Awards granted to consultants will be determined from time to time by the Committee. The Committee has the power to interpret and administer the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan and establish rules under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan. Under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan, participants exercising options may surrender shares of our common stock (previously owned by the participant) to us in payment of the exercise price thereunder. In the event any dividend, distribution, recapitalization, stock split, merger, consolidation or other event occurs that affects the options granted under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan, the Committee may make such adjustments to awards under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan as it deems necessary to preserve the benefits intended under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan and such awards. Awards granted under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan are not transferable.

Termination

The 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan will expire on March 22, 2011, unless terminated earlier by our Board of Directors. No option may be granted after such termination, but termination of the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan shall not, without the consent of the optionee, alter or impair any rights or obligations under any option previously granted.

Federal Tax Considerations

The following is a summary of the principal United States of America federal income tax consequences generally applicable to options granted under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan:

Non-qualified Stock Options. No taxable income to a recipient will be realized, and we will not be entitled to any related deduction, at the time any non-qualified stock option is granted under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan. Generally, at the time shares are transferred to the recipient pursuant to the exercise of a non-qualified stock option, the recipient will realize ordinary income, and we will be entitled to a deduction, equal to the excess of the fair market value of the stock on the date of exercise over the option price. Upon disposition of the shares, any additional gain or loss realized by the recipient will be treated as a capital gain or loss.

Board Recommendation and Voting Requirements

Our Board recommends a vote FOR approval of the amendment to the 2001 Directors and Consultants plan. Provided a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the voting power of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote on this item and present, in person or by proxy, at the annual meeting is required for approval of the amendment to increase the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the 2001 Directors and Consultants Plan by 400,000. Proxies solicited by our board will be voted for approval of the amendment, unless shareholders specify otherwise in their proxies.

PROPOSAL TO RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

(Item 4 on proxy card)

At the meeting, a vote will be taken on a proposal to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent certified public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2003. KPMG LLP has audited our financial statements since 1995.

Representatives of KPMG LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting to make a statement if they so desire and to respond to appropriate questions.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote on this item and represented in person or by proxy at the annual meeting, is necessary for approval of the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent certified public accountants.

Audit Fees

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Audit fees billed to Antares Pharma by KPMG LLP during 2002 for review of our annual financial statements and those financial statements included in our quarterly reports totaled \$171,461.

Financial Information System Design and Implementation Fees

Fees billed to Antares Pharma by KPMG LLP during 2002 for advice regarding financial information system design and implementation totaled \$12,746.

All other Fees

Fees billed to Antares Pharma by KPMG LLP during 2002 for all other non-audit services, consisting primarily of services related to our private placements of convertible debentures and the filing of registrations statements in connection with such placements, as well as tax-related services, totaled \$65,100.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee reviews our financial reporting process on behalf of the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee acts under a written charter that was first adopted and approved by our Board of Directors on June 12, 2000. A copy of this charter is attached as Exhibit C. The members of the Audit Committee during 2002 were Mr. Kenneth Evenstad (until his resignation on August 19, 2002, at which time Mr. Clark replaced him on the Audit Committee), Dr. Philippe Dro and Dr. Jacques Rejeange (until his resignation on March 25, 2003). Management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process. Our independent certified public accountants are responsible for expressing an opinion on the conformity of our audited financial statements to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In this context, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with management and the independent certified public accountants the audited financial statements for 2002. The Audit Committee discussed with the independent certified public accountants the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (Communication with Audit Committee). In addition, the Audit Committee received from the independent certified public accountants the written disclosures required by Independence Standards Board No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees) and discussed with them their independence from us and our management. The Audit Committee determined that the independent certified public accountants' provision of information technology services and other non-audit services to our company is compatible with the certified public accountants' independence.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board approved, that the audited financial statements be included in our company's Annual Report on SEC Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002, for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Dr. Philippe Dro

James Clark

Members of the Audit Committee

Our Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent certified public accountants.

OTHER MATTERS

Solicitation

We will bear the cost of preparing, assembling and mailing the proxy card and proxy statement to our shareholders in connection with this solicitation. Brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries may be requested to forward soliciting material to the beneficial owners of stock, in which case they will be reimbursed by us for their expenses in doing so. Proxies are being solicited primarily by mail, but our officers and directors may solicit proxies personally by telephone or special letter, but such persons will not receive compensation from us for doing so.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires our directors, certain officers and persons who own more than ten percent of a registered class of our equity securities, to file reports of ownership on Form 3 and changes in ownership on Forms 4 or 5 with the SEC. Such officers, directors and ten percent shareholders are also required by the SEC rules to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) reports they file.

Specific due dates for such reports have been established by the SEC and we are required to disclose in this Proxy Statement any failure to file reports by such dates. Based solely on our review of the copies of such reports received by us or by written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that during the year ended December 31, 2002, all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to our officers, directors and ten percent shareholders were met.

Shareholder Proposals

The proxy rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission permit shareholders, after timely notice to issuers, to present proposals for shareholder action in issuer proxy statements where such proposals are consistent with applicable law, pertain to matters appropriate for shareholder action, and are not properly omitted by company action in accordance with proxy rules. Shareholder proposals for our 2004 annual meeting must be prepared in accordance with the proxy rules and received by us on or before December 16, 2003 in order to be eligible for inclusion in our proxy materials.

Other Matters

Our Board of Directors does not intend to present at the annual meeting any matter not referred to above and does not presently know of any matters that may be presented to the special meeting by others. However, if other matters come before the annual meeting, it is the

intention of the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy to vote the proxy in accordance with their best judgment.

Incorporation by Reference

This proxy statement incorporates by reference our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 21, 2003 and enclosed herewith, which includes an audited consolidated balance sheet as of that date and related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders' equity (deficit) and comprehensive loss and consolidated statements of cash flows, as well as other financial information relating to our operations.

ANTARES PHARMA, INC.

2001 INCENTIVE STOCK OPTION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES

Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of this 2001 Incentive Stock Option Plan for Employees (the "Plan") is to promote the interests of Antares Pharma, Inc. (the "Company") and its shareholders by aiding the Company in attracting and retaining employees capable of contributing to the growth and success of the Company, and by offering such employees an opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in the Company, thereby providing them with incentives to put forth maximum efforts for the success of the Company's business and aligning the interests of such employees with those of the Company's shareholders.

Section 2. Definitions.

As used in the Plan, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

(a) **Affiliate** shall mean (i) any entity that, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, is controlled by the Company and (ii) any entity in which the Company has a significant equity interest, in each case as determined by the Board of Directors.

(b) **Award** shall mean any Option granted under the Plan.

(c) **Award Agreement** shall mean any written agreement, contract or other instrument or document evidencing any Award granted under the Plan.

(d) **Code** shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

(e) **Committee** shall mean the a committee of the Board of Directors of the Company to whom the powers and duties of such Board of Directors under the Plan may be delegated pursuant to Section 3(b) hereof, which shall consist of members appointed from time to time by the Board of Directors and shall be composed solely of two or more directors, each of whom is an outside director within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code to the extent required by such Section.

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(f) **Company** shall mean Antares Pharma, Inc., a Minnesota corporation, and any successor corporation.

(g) **Eligible Person** shall mean any employee or officer providing services to the Company or any Affiliate.

(h) **Exchange Act** shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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- (i) **Fair Market Value** shall mean, with respect to any property (including, without limitation, any Shares or other securities), the fair market value of such property determined by such methods or procedures as the Board of Directors shall establish in good faith from time to time. Where there is a public market for the Shares, the fair market value per Share on a given date shall be the closing price of a Share in the over-the-counter market on such date, as reported in *The Wall Street Journal* (or, if not so reported, as otherwise reported by The Nasdaq Stock Market (Nasdaq)) or, in the event the Shares are traded on the Nasdaq National Market, SmallCap Market or listed on a stock exchange, the fair market value per Share shall be the closing price on such system or exchange on such date, as reported in *The Wall Street Journal*; if such market or exchange is not open for trading on such date, the Fair Market Value shall be determined as of the closest preceding date when such market or exchange was open for trading.
- (j) **Incentive Stock Option** shall mean an option granted under Section 6(a) of the Plan that is intended to meet the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision.
- (k) **Non-Qualified Stock Option** shall mean an option granted under Section 6(a) of the Plan that is not intended to meet the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision.
- (l) **Option** shall mean an Incentive Stock Option or a Non-Qualified Stock Option.
- (m) **Participant** shall mean an Eligible Person whom the Board of Directors designates to receive an Award under the Plan.
- (n) **Person** shall mean any individual, corporation, partnership, association or trust.
- (o) **Rule 16b-3** shall mean Rule 16b-3 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Exchange Act or any successor rule or regulation.
- (p) **Shares** shall mean shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value, of the Company or such other securities or property as may become subject to Awards pursuant to an adjustment made under Section 4(c) of the Plan.

Section 3. Administration.

- (a) **Administration by the Board of Directors.** The Plan shall be administered by the Board of Directors of the Company, with or without the advice of a Committee. Subject to the express provisions of the Plan and to applicable law, the Board of Directors shall have full power and authority to: (i) designate Participants; (ii) determine the type or types of Awards to be granted to each Participants under the Plan; (iii) determine the number of Shares to be covered by each Award; (iv) determine the terms and conditions of any Award or Award Agreement; (v) amend the terms and conditions of any Award or Award Agreement and accelerate the exercisability of Options; (vi) interpret and administer the Plan and any instrument or agreement

relating to, or Award made under, the Plan; (vii) establish, amend, suspend or waive such rules and regulations and appoint such agents as it shall deem appropriate for the proper administration of the Plan; and (viii) make any other determination and take any other action that the Board of Directors deems necessary or desirable for the administration of the Plan. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, all designations, determinations, interpretations and other decisions under or with respect to the Plan or any Award shall be within the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, may be made at any time and shall be final, conclusive and binding upon any Participant, any holder or beneficiary of any Award and any employee of the Company or any Affiliate.

(b) Delegation to Committee. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Board of Directors may, at any time and from time to time, delegate its powers and duties hereunder to a Committee solely for purposes of complying with Section 162(m) of the Code.

(c) References to Board of Directors. Unless stated to the contrary, as used herein, references to the Board of Directors shall mean the Committee to whom the Board of Directors has delegated its powers and duties in the event such powers and duties have been so delegated.

Section 4. Shares Available for Awards.

(a) Shares Available. Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4(c), the aggregate number of Shares which may be issued under all Awards under the Plan shall be 1,400,000. Shares to be issued under the Plan shall be authorized but previously unissued. If any Shares covered by an Award or to which an Award relates are not purchased or are forfeited, or if an Award otherwise terminates without delivery of any Shares, then the number of Shares counted against the aggregate number of Shares available under the Plan with respect to such Award, to the extent of any such forfeiture or termination, shall again be available for granting Awards under the Plan.

(b) Accounting for Awards. For purpose of this Section 4, if an Award entitles the holder thereof to purchase Shares, the number of Shares covered by such Award shall be counted on the date of grant of such Award against the aggregate number of Shares available for granting Awards under the Plan.

(c) Adjustments. In the event that the Board of Directors shall determine that any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash, Shares, other securities or other property), recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, split-up, spin-off, combination, repurchase or exchange of Shares or other securities of the Company, issuance of warrants or other rights to purchase Shares or other securities of the Company or other similar corporate transaction or event affects the Shares such that an adjustment is determined by the Board of Directors to be appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the Plan, then the Board of Directors shall, in such manner as it may deem equitable, adjust any or all of (i) the number and type of Shares (or other securities or other property) which thereafter may be made the subject of Awards; (ii) the number and type of Shares (or other securities or other

property) subject to outstanding Awards and (iii) the purchase or exercise price with respect to any Award; provided, however, that the number of Shares covered by any Award or to which such Award relates shall always be a whole number.

Section 5. Eligibility.

Any employee, including any employee who is an officer of the Company or any Affiliate, shall be eligible to be designated a Participant. In determining which Eligible Persons shall receive an Award and the terms of any Award, the Board of Directors may take into account the nature of the services rendered by the respective Eligible Persons, their present and potential contributions to the success of the Company or such other factors as the Board of Directors, in its discretion, shall deem relevant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Incentive Stock Option may only be granted to full or part-time employees (which term as used herein includes, without limitation, officers who are also employees), and an Incentive Stock Option shall not be granted to an employee of an Affiliate unless such Affiliate is also a subsidiary corporation of the Company within the meaning of Section 424(f) of the Code or any successor provision.

Section 6. Awards.

(a) Options. The Board of Directors is hereby authorized to grant Options to Participants with the following terms and conditions and with such additional terms and conditions not inconsistent with the provisions of the Plan as the Board of Directors shall determine:

(i) Exercise Price. The purchase price per Share purchasable under an Option shall be determined by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that such price shall not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant of such Option.

(ii) Option Term. The term of each Option shall be fixed by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that the term of an Incentive Stock Option may not extend more than ten years from the date of grant of such Incentive Stock Option. Provided, further, that the Board of Directors shall be under no duty to provide terms of like duration for Awards granted under the Plan.

(iii) Time and Method of Exercise. The Board of Directors shall determine the time or times at which an Option may be exercised in whole or in part and the method or methods by which, and the form or forms (including, without limitation, cash, previously owned Shares, Shares issuable upon exercise of the Award or any combination thereof, having a Fair Market Value on the exercise date equal to the relevant exercise price) in which, payment of the exercise price with respect thereto may be made or deemed to have been made.

(iv) Certain Options to be Treated as Non-Qualified Stock Options. If the aggregate Fair Market Value of all Shares subject to Incentive Stock Options granted to a Participant under all plans of the Company and its parent and subsidiary corporations (as described in Section 422(d) of the Code) that are exercisable for the first time during any

calendar year exceeds \$100,000 at the time an Option is granted to such Participant, then such Option shall be treated as an Option that does not qualify as an Incentive Stock Option.

(v) Ten Percent Shareholder Rule. Notwithstanding any other provision in the Plan, if at the time an Option is otherwise to be granted pursuant to the Plan to a Participant who owns, directly or indirectly (within the meaning of Section 424(d) of the Code), Common Stock of the Company possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or its parent or any subsidiary, then any Incentive Stock Option to be granted to such Participant pursuant to the Plan shall satisfy the requirements of Section 422(c)(5) of the Code, and the exercise price of such Option shall be not less than 110% of the Fair Market Value of the Shares covered, and such Option by its terms shall not be exercisable after the expiration of five years from the date such Option is granted.

(vi) Option Limitations Under the Plan. No Eligible Person who is an employee of the Company at the time of grant may be granted any Option covering more than 500,000 Shares in the aggregate in any calendar year. The foregoing annual limitation shall apply to the extent required by Section 162(m) of the Code to qualify the Option as qualified performance-based compensation within the meaning of such Section.

(vii) Foreign Jurisdictions. The Board of Directors may adopt, amend, and terminate such arrangements, not inconsistent with the intent of the Plan, as it may deem necessary or desirable to make available tax or other benefits of the laws of any foreign jurisdiction to Eligible Persons who are subject to such laws and who receive Options under the Plan.

(b) General.

(i) No Cash Consideration for Awards. Awards shall be granted for no cash consideration or for such minimal cash consideration as may be required by applicable law.

(ii) Grant of Additional Awards. An Eligible Person who has been granted an Award under this Plan may be granted additional Awards under the Plan if the Board of Directors shall so determine.

(iii) Limits on Transfer of Awards. No Award and no right under any such Award shall be transferable by a Participant otherwise than by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. No Award or right under any such Award may be pledged, alienated, attached or otherwise encumbered, and any purported pledge, alienation, attachment or encumbrance thereof shall be void and unenforceable against the Company or any Affiliate.

(iv) Restrictions: Securities Exchange Listing. All certificates for Shares or other securities delivered under the Plan pursuant to any Award or the exercise thereof shall be subject to such stop transfer orders and other restrictions as the Board of Directors may deem advisable under the Plan or the rules, regulations and other requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission and any applicable federal or state securities laws, and the Board of Directors may cause a legend or legends to be placed on any such certificate to make appropriate

reference to such restrictions. If the Shares or other securities are quoted on Nasdaq, traded on the Nasdaq National Market, SmallCap Market or listed on a stock exchange, the Company shall not be required to deliver any Shares or other securities covered by an Award unless and until such Shares or other securities have been admitted for quotation or trading the Nasdaq National Market, SmallCap Market or such stock exchange.

Section 7. Income Tax Withholding.

In order to comply with all applicable federal or state income tax laws or regulations, the Company may take such action as it deems appropriate to ensure that all applicable federal or state payroll, withholding, income or other taxes, all of which are and shall remain the sole and absolute responsibility of a Participant, are withheld or collected from such Participant. In order to assist a Participant in paying all or a portion of the federal and state taxes to be withheld or collected upon exercise of an Award, the Board of Directors, in its discretion and subject to such additional terms and conditions as it may adopt, may permit the Participant to satisfy such tax obligation by (i) electing to have the Company withhold a portion of the Shares otherwise to be delivered upon exercise of such Award with a Fair Market Value equal to the amount of such taxes or (ii) delivering to the Company Shares other than Shares issuable upon exercise of such Award with a Fair Market Value equal to the amount of such taxes. The election, if any, must be made on or before the date that the amount of tax to be withheld is determined.

Section 8. General Provisions.

(a) No Rights to Awards. No Eligible Person, Participant or other Person shall have any claim to be granted any Award under the Plan, and there is no obligation for uniformity of treatment of Eligible Persons, Participants or holders or beneficiaries of Awards under the Plan. The terms and conditions of Awards need not be the same with respect to any Participant or with respect to different Participants.

(b) Award Agreements. No Participant will have rights under an Award granted to such Participant unless and until an Award Agreement shall have been duly executed on behalf of the Company and, if requested by the Company, signed by the Participant.

(c) No Limit on Other Compensation Arrangements. Nothing contained in the Plan shall prevent the Company or any Affiliate from adopting or continuing in effect other or additional compensation arrangements, and such arrangements may be either generally applicable or applicable only in specific cases.

(d) No Right to Employment. The grant of an Award shall not be construed as giving a Participant the right to be retained as an employee or director of the Company or any Affiliate, nor will it affect in any way the right of the Company or an Affiliate to terminate such employment or directorship at any time, with or without cause. In addition, the Company or an Affiliate may at any time dismiss a Participant from employment or directorship free from any liability or any claim under the Plan, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Plan or in any Award Agreement.

(e) Governing Law. The validity, construction and effect of the Plan or of any Award, and any rules and regulations relating to the Plan or any Award, shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.

(f) Severability. If any provision of the Plan or any Award is or becomes or is deemed to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any jurisdiction or would disqualify the Plan or any Award under any law deemed applicable by the Board of Directors, such provision shall be construed or deemed amended to conform to applicable law, or if it cannot be so construed or deemed amended without, in the determination of the Board of Directors, materially altering the purpose or intent of the Plan or the Award, such provision shall be stricken as to such jurisdiction or Award, and the remainder of the Plan or any such Award shall remain in full force and effect.

(g) No Trust or Fund Created. Neither the Plan nor any Award shall create or be construed to create a trust or separate fund of any kind or a fiduciary relationship between the Company or any Affiliate and a Participant or any other Person. To the extent that any Person acquires a right to receive payments from the Company or any Affiliate pursuant to an Award, such right shall be no greater than the right of any unsecured general creditor of the Company or any Affiliate.

(h) No Fractional Shares. No fractional Shares shall be issued or delivered pursuant to the Plan or any Award, and the Board of Directors shall determine whether cash shall be paid in lieu of any fractional Shares or whether such fractional Shares or any rights thereto shall be canceled, terminated or otherwise eliminated.

(i) Headings. Headings are given to the Sections and subsections of the Plan solely as a convenience to facilitate reference. Such headings shall not be deemed in any way material or relevant to the construction or interpretation of the Plan or any provision thereof.

(j) Other Benefits. No compensation or benefit awarded to or realized by any Participant under the Plan shall be included for the purpose of computing such Participant's compensation under any compensation-based retirement, disability, or similar plan of the Company unless required by law or otherwise provided by such other plan.

Section 9. Amendment and Termination; Adjustments.

Except to the extent prohibited by applicable law and unless otherwise expressly provided in an Award Agreement or in the Plan:

(a) Amendments to the Plan. The Board of Directors of the Company may amend, alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate the Plan; provided, however, that, notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan or any Award Agreement, without the approval of the shareholders of the Company, no such amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuation or termination shall be made that, absent such approval, would:

(i) violate the rules or regulations of Nasdaq National Market, SmallCap market or any stock exchange that are applicable to the Company; or

(ii) cause the Company to be unable, under the Code, to grant Incentive Stock Options under the Plan.

(b) Amendments to Awards. The Board of Directors may waive any conditions or rights of the Company under any outstanding Award, prospectively or retroactively. The Board of Directors may not amend, alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate any outstanding Award, prospectively or retroactively, without the consent of the Participant or holder or beneficiary thereof, except as otherwise provided herein or in the Award Agreement.

(c) Correction of Defects, Omissions and Inconsistencies. The Board of Directors may correct any defect, supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan or any Award in the manner and to the extent it shall deem desirable to carry the Plan into effect.

Section 10. Effective Date; Term.

(a) Effective Date. The Plan shall be effective as of January 31, 2001 (the Effective Date); provided, however, that if the Company's shareholders do not approve the Plan at the next meeting of Shareholders, the Plan shall be null and void and all Awards granted prior to the date of such Special Meeting shall be of no force or effect, and provided further, that no Incentive Stock Option may be granted before March 22, 2001, the date that the Plan was approved by the Board.

(b) Term. Awards shall be granted under the Plan only during a 10-year period beginning on the Effective Date. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Plan or in an applicable Award Agreement, however, any Award theretofore granted may extend beyond the end of such 10-year period, and the authority of the Board of Directors provided for hereunder, shall extend beyond the termination of the Plan.

Section 11. Notice.

All notices to the Company regarding the Plan shall be in writing, effective as of actual receipt by the Company, and shall be sent to

ANTARES PHARMA, INC.

707 Eagleview Boulevard, Suite 414

Exton, PA 19341

Attn: Chief Financial Officer

ANTARES PHARMA, INC.

2001 STOCK OPTION PLAN

FOR NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTORS AND CONSULTANTS

1. Purpose of Plan

This plan shall be known as the Antares Pharma, Inc. 2001 Stock Option Plan For Non-Employee Directors and Consultants and is hereinafter referred to as the Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to promote the interests of Antares Pharma, Inc., a Minnesota corporation (the Company), by enhancing its ability to attract and retain the services of experienced and knowledgeable non-employee directors and consultants and by providing additional incentive for such directors to increase their interest in the Company's long-term success and progress. Options granted under this Plan shall be nonqualified stock options which do not qualify as incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code).

2. Stock Subject to Plan

Subject to the provisions of Section 10 hereof, the stock subject to options under the Plan shall be authorized but unissued shares of the Company's common stock, \$.01 par value per share (the Common Stock). Subject to the adjustment as provided in Section 10 hereof, the maximum number of shares for which options may be exercised under this Plan shall be 600,000 shares. If an option under the Plan expires, or for any reason is terminated or unexercised with respect to any shares, such shares shall again be available for options thereafter granted during the term of the Plan.

3. Administration of Plan

The Plan shall be administered by a committee composed of members of the Board of Directors of the Company (the Committee). The Committee shall have plenary authority in its discretion, subject to the express provisions of this Plan including the restrictions contained in Section 11 below, to interpret the Plan, to prescribe, amend, and rescind rules and regulations relating to the Plan, and to make all other determinations necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan. The Committee's determinations on the foregoing matters shall be final and conclusive.

4. Eligibility

(a) Each director of the Company who is not otherwise an employee of the Company or any subsidiary of the Company (an Eligible Director) shall be eligible to participate in the Plan. Any consultant to the Company, who is not also an employee of the Company may be designated a participant in the Plan by the Board of Directors. All Awards under the plan shall be made at the discretion of the Committee.

5. Price

The option price for all options granted under the Plan shall be the Fair Market Value of the shares covered by the option on the date the option is granted. For purposes of this Plan, Fair Market Value shall mean the fair market value of the shares determined by such methods or procedures as the Board of Directors shall establish in good faith from time to time. Where there is a public market for the shares, the Fair Market Value per share on a given date shall be the closing price of a share in the over-the-counter market on such date, as reported in *The Wall Street Journal* (or, if not so reported, as otherwise reported by The Nasdaq Stock Market (Nasdaq)) or, in the event the shares are traded on the Nasdaq National Market, SmallCap Market or listed on a stock exchange, the Fair Market Value per share shall be the closing price on such system or exchange on such date, as reported in *The Wall Street Journal*; if such market or exchange is not open for trading on such date, the Fair Market Value shall be determined as of the closest preceding date when such market or exchange was open for trading.

6. Terms of Awards

Each option shall, subject to the provisions of Section 8 hereof, expire 10 years from the date on which the option was granted. Each option shall be subject to such other terms as established at the time of the Award and as set forth in an Award agreement.

7. Time and Method of Exercise.

(a) The Committee shall determine the time or times at which an Option may be exercised in whole or in part and the method or methods by which, and the form or forms (including, without limitation, cash, previously owned Shares, Shares issuable upon exercise of the Award or any combination thereof, having a Fair Market Value on the exercise date equal to the relevant exercise price) in which, payment of the exercise price with respect thereto may be made or deemed to have been made.

(b) The exercise of any option granted hereunder shall only be effective at such time as counsel to the Company shall have determined that the issuance and delivery of Common Stock pursuant to such exercise will not violate any state or federal securities or other laws. An optionee desiring to exercise an option may be required by the Company, as a condition of the effectiveness of any exercise of an option granted hereunder, to agree in writing that all Common Stock to be acquired pursuant to such exercise shall be held for his or her own account without a view to any further distribution thereof, that the certificates for such shares shall bear an appropriate legend to that effect and that such shares will not be transferred or disposed of except in compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws.

(c) An optionee electing to exercise an option shall give written notice to the Company of such election and of the number of shares subject to such exercise. The full purchase price of such shares shall be tendered with such notice of exercise. Payment shall

be made to the Company either (i) in cash (including check, bank draft or money order), or (ii) by delivering the Company's Common Stock already owned by the optionee having a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise equal to the full purchase price of the shares, or (iii) by any combination of cash and the method specified in (ii) of this sentence. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the Fair Market Value of Common Stock tendered shall be determined as provided in Section 5 hereof as of the date of exercise. Until such person has been issued a certificate or certificates for the shares subject to such exercise, he or she shall possess no rights as a shareholder with respect to such shares.

8. Effect of Termination of Services or Death or Disability

(a) In the event that an optionee who is a member of the Board of Directors of the Company or its subsidiaries shall resign or be removed without cause, and shall not after such resignation or removal perform services for the Company as an employee or consultant, such optionee shall have the right to exercise options received for services as a member of the Board of Directors for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after such resignation or removal to the extent of the full number of shares he or she was entitled to purchase under the option on the date of termination, subject to the condition that no option shall be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the option.

(b) In the event that an optionee who is a member of the Board of Directors of the Company or its subsidiaries shall resign or be removed without cause, and shall after such resignation or removal perform services for the Company as an employee or consultant, such optionee shall have the right to exercise options received for services as a member of the Board of Directors for a period of ninety (90) days after the cessation of all services with the Company and its subsidiaries to the extent of the full number of shares he or she was entitled to purchase under the option on the date of cessation, subject to the condition that no option shall be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the option. Provided, however, that all options of such optionee who is removed or terminated for cause shall expire on the date of removal or termination.

(c) In the event that an optionee shall resign or be terminated without cause as a consultant to the Company or its subsidiaries, such optionee shall have the right to exercise options received for services as a consultant for a period of ninety (90) days after such resignation or termination to the extent of the full number of shares he or she was entitled to purchase under the option on the date of termination, subject to the condition that no option shall be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the option.

(d) In the event that an optionee shall die or become disabled (such death or disability occurring while a Director or consultant to the Company), such optionee (or such optionee's guardian, administrators or personal representative) shall have the right to exercise the option for a period of one year after the date of such death or disability to the extent of the full number of shares he or she was entitled to purchase under the option on the date of death or disability, subject to the condition that no option shall be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the option. Disability shall be determined by the Board of Directors of the Company.

(e) In the event that an optionee shall cease to be a Director of or consultant to the Company by reason of his or her gross and willful misconduct during the course of his or her service to the Company, including but not limited to wrongful appropriation of funds of the Company, or the commission of a gross misdemeanor or felony, the option shall be terminated as of the date of the misconduct.

(f) Nothing in this Plan or in any agreement hereunder shall confer on any optionee any right to continue as a Director of or consultant to the Company or affect in any way any legal rights with respect to termination of such directorship or consultant relationship or removal of such optionee as a Director.

9. Non-Transferability

No option granted under the Plan shall be transferable by an optionee, otherwise than by will or the laws of descent or distribution. Except as provided in Section 8 herein with respect to disability of the optionee, during the lifetime of an optionee, the option shall be exercisable only by such optionee.

10. Dilution or Other Adjustments

If there shall be any change in the Common Stock through merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, stock dividend (of whatever amount), stock split or other change in the corporate structure, appropriate adjustments in the Plan and outstanding Options shall be made. In the event of any such changes, adjustments shall include, where appropriate, changes in the aggregate number of shares subject to the Plan, the number of shares subject to outstanding options and the exercise prices thereof in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of option rights.

11. Amendment or Discontinuance of Plan

The Board of Directors of the Company may amend, alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate the Plan. The Board of Directors may waive any conditions or rights of the Company under any outstanding Option award, prospectively or retroactively. The Board of Directors may not amend, alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate any outstanding Award, prospectively or retroactively, without the consent of the Participant or holder or beneficiary thereof, except as otherwise provided herein or in the Award Agreement. The Board of Directors may correct any defect, supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan or any Award in the manner and to the extent it shall deem desirable to carry the Plan into effect.

12. Effective Date and Termination of Plan

(a) The Plan was approved by the Board of Directors on March 22, 2001, and shall be effective from January 31, 2001, subject to the approval by shareholders of the Company. In the event shareholder approval is not obtained, this Plan shall be of no force or effect, and any option previously granted hereunder shall terminate. The Plan shall be submitted for approval to shareholders of the Company within 12 months of the effective date.

(b) Unless the Plan shall have been discontinued as provided in Section 11 hereof, the Plan shall terminate on March 22, 2011. No option may be granted after such termination, but termination of the Plan shall not, without the consent of the optionee, alter or impair any rights or obligations under any option theretofore granted.

13. Governing Law

The Plan and all determinations made and actions taken pursuant hereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota and construed accordingly.

ANTARES PHARMA, INC.

Charter of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors

I. Audit Committee Purpose

The Audit Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. The Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities are to:

Monitor the integrity of the Company's financial reporting process and systems of internal controls regarding finance, accounting, and legal compliance.

Monitor the independence and performance of the Company's independent auditors.

Provide an avenue of communication among the independent auditors, management, and the Board of Directors.

Review areas of potential significant financial risk to the Company.

Monitor compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

The Audit Committee has the authority to conduct any investigation appropriate to fulfilling its responsibilities, and it has direct access to the independent auditors as well as anyone in the organization. The Audit Committee has the ability to retain, at the Company's expense, special legal, accounting, or other consultants or experts it deems necessary in the performance of its duties.

II. Audit Committee Composition and Meetings

Audit Committee members shall meet the requirements of the NASD Exchange. The Audit Committee shall be comprised of three or more directors as determined by the Board, each of whom shall be independent nonexecutive directors, free from any relationship that would interfere with the exercise of his or her independent judgment. All members of the Committee shall have a basic understanding of finance and accounting and be able to read and understand fundamental financial statements, and at least one member of the Committee shall have accounting or related financial management expertise.

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Audit Committee members shall be appointed by the Board. If an audit committee Chair is not designated or present, the members of the Committee may designate a Chair by majority vote of the Committee membership.

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The Committee shall meet at least two times annually, or more frequently as circumstances dictate. The Audit Committee Chair shall prepare and/or approve an agenda in advance of each meeting. The Committee should meet privately in executive session at least annually with management, the independent auditors, and as a committee to discuss any matters that the Committee or each of these groups believe should be discussed. In addition, the Committee, or at least its Chair, should communicate with management and the independent auditors quarterly to review the Company's financial statements and significant findings based upon the auditors limited review procedures prior to release of the 10Q and/or the related press release.

III. Audit Committee Responsibilities and Duties

Review Procedures

1. Review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter at least annually. Submit the charter to the Board of Directors for approval and have the document published at least every three years in accordance with SEC regulations.
2. Review the Company's annual audited financial statements prior to filing or distribution. Review should include discussion with management and independent auditors of significant issues regarding accounting principles, practices, and judgments.
3. In consultation with the management and the independent auditors, consider the integrity of the Company's financial reporting processes and controls. Discuss significant financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor, control, and report such exposures. Review significant findings prepared by the independent auditors together with management's responses.
4. Review with financial management and the independent auditors the company's quarterly financial results prior to the release of earnings and/or the company's quarterly financial statements prior to filing or distribution. Discuss any significant changes to the Company's accounting principles and any items required to be communicated by the independent auditors in accordance with SAS 61 (see item 9). The Chair of the Committee may represent the entire Audit Committee for purposes of this review.

Independent Auditors

5. The independent auditors are ultimately accountable to the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee shall review the independence and performance of the auditors and annually recommend to the Board of Directors the appointment of the independent auditors or approve any discharge of auditors when circumstances warrant.
6. Approve the fees and other significant compensation to be paid to the independent auditors.

7. On an annual basis, the Committee should review and discuss with the independent auditors all significant relationships they have with the Company that could impair the auditors' independence.

8. Review the independent auditors' audit plan-discuss reliance upon scope, staffing, locations, management, and internal audit and general audit approach.

9. Prior to releasing the year-end earnings, discuss the results of the audit with the independent auditors. Discuss certain matters required to be communicated to audit committees in accordance with AICPA SAS 61.

10. Consider the independent auditors' judgments about the quality and appropriateness of the Company's accounting principles as applied in its financial reporting.

Other Audit Committee Responsibilities

11. Annually prepare a report to shareholders as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The report should be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.

12. Perform any other activities consistent with this Charter, the Company's by-laws, and governing law, as the Committee or the Board deems necessary or appropriate.

13. Maintain minutes of meetings and periodically report to the Board of Directors on significant results of the foregoing activities.

ANTARES PHARMA, INC.

707 Eagleview Boulevard, Suite 414

Exton, PA 19341

Annual Meeting of Shareholders

October 31, 2003

9:00 A.M. Local Time

The Hotel Monaco

15 West 200 South

Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Antares Pharma, Inc.

707 Eagleview Boulevard, Suite 414, Exton, PA 19341 proxy

Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on October 31, 2003.

This Proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Please mark, sign, date and return in the enclosed envelope.

By signing the proxy, you revoke all prior proxies and appoint Dr. ROGER G. HARRISON and LAWRENCE M. CHRISTIAN, or either one of them, as Proxies, each with the power to appoint his substitute and to act without the other, and authorize each of them to represent and to vote, as designated herein, all shares of common stock of Antares Pharma, Inc., held of record by the undersigned on October 1, 2003, at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Company to be held on October 31, 2003, or any adjournment thereof.

See reverse for voting instructions.

PLEASE MARK, SIGN, DATE, AND RETURN THIS PROXY BY OCTOBER 27, 2003

USING THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR VIA FACSIMILE AT (610) 458-0756

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote for the proposals below.

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|------------------|
| <p>1. To elect two members of the Board of Directors
01 Roger G. Harrison
02 Anton Gueth</p> <p>(Instructions: To withhold authority to vote for any indicated nominee, write the number(s) of the nominee(s) in the box provided to the right.)</p> | <p>“ Vote FOR all nominees

(except as marked)</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>“ Vote WITHHELD
from all nominees</p> | |
| <p>2. To amend the Company’s 2001 Incentive Stock Option Plan for Employees to increase the number of shares authorized thereunder from 600,000 to 1,400,000.</p> | <p>“ For</p> | <p>“ Against</p> | <p>“ Abstain</p> |
| <p>3. To amend the Company’s 2001 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors and Consultants to increase the number of shares authorized thereunder from 200,000 to 600,000.</p> | <p>“ For</p> | <p>“ Against</p> | <p>“ Abstain</p> |
| <p>4. To ratify and approve the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Company’s independent auditors for the Company’s fiscal year ending December 31, 2003.</p> | <p>“ For</p> | <p>“ Against</p> | <p>“ Abstain</p> |
| <p>5. The proxies are authorized to vote in their discretion upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.</p> | | | |

THIS PROXY WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED, WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED OR, IF NO DIRECTION IS GIVEN, WILL BE VOTED FOR PROPOSALS 1, 2, 3 AND 4. THE PROXIES ARE AUTHORIZED TO VOTE IN THEIR DISCRETION WITH RESPECT TO OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING.

Address Change? Mark box “ Indicate changes below:

Date: _____, 2003

Signature(s) in Box

PLEASE SIGN exactly as name appears on this proxy. When shares are held by joint tenants, both should sign. If signing as attorney, executor, administrator, trustee, or guardian, please give full title as such. If a corporation, please sign in full corporate name by president or other authorized officer. If a partnership, please sign in partnership name by an authorized person.