

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## VITEX PHARMACEUTICALS OPENS NEW \$100 MILLION MANUFACTURING PLANT IN WESTERN SYDNEY

**SYDNEY, Australia, 17 November 2017 -** Vitex Pharmaceuticals, the Australian-owned and operated contract manufacturer of complementary medicines, today unveiled its new 26,000 square metre, state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Sydney's Eastern Creek.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, Prime Minister of Australia, officially opened the best-in-class A\$100 million manufacturing plant which will create close to 420 jobs in western Sydney.

"I congratulate Vitex Pharmaceuticals on this major investment in jobs in Western Sydney. I'm proud that my Government's policies have created an additional 355 000 jobs in the past year. The drive and innovation of businesses like Vitex have made this extraordinary jobs growth possible and this exciting new facility is no exception," said Mr Turnbull.

Explaining the decision to make the significant investment in the company's manufacturing capabilities, Vitex CEO and Co-Founder Dr Aniss Chami said, "The continuing demand for Australian-made vitamins, supplements and wellness products continues to grow both domestically and from emerging markets such as China and South-East Asia. Vitex's vision is to become a world-leading Australian-owned pharmaceutical manufacturer and represent the country on the global stage."

Dr Chami said Vitex sees great potential in the future of the vitamin and supplementary industry. Industry revenue currently stands at A\$1.4 billion and IBISWorld's 2016 Industry Report forecasts this will grow at an annualised 3.9% over the five years through 2021-22, to total A\$1.7 billion.

"Our new plant is the nation's largest tablet and soft gel capsule contract manufacturing site for complementary medicine and we are well-positioned to keep pace with the rapidly expanding export markets," Dr Chami continued.

"Through discussions with our partners and industry stakeholders locally and throughout the world, it is evident just how important the reputation of high quality Australian-made medicine is in leading the future of manufacturing and the growth of the local economy. As one of the very few Australian-owned and operated contract manufacturers in this industry, we take this responsibility seriously because we recognise the impact our business has on our community, clients and consumers," concluded Dr Chami.

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## **About Vitex Pharmaceuticals**

Vitex Pharmaceuticals is a leading contract manufacturer of Australian-made vitamins, supplements and wellness products. From its 26,000sqm best-in-class facility in Sydney, Australia, Vitex is fully equipped to formulate, manufacture and package a wide variety of vitamins, minerals, herbal and nutritional supplements including tablets, soft gel capsules, two-piece hard gel capsules and powders.

It is a 100% Australian-owned and family operated company. Established in 1989 by Mr Elie Chami, now Vitex's Chairman, the company's origins began when the family began exporting Australian-made products to the Middle East and Arabian Gulf region.

Since 2016 the company has been led by Dr Aniss G.E. Chami, one of the youngest CEOs in the industry. Dr Chami graduated from Macquarie University completing his Bachelor of Medical Science with Honours (M Med Sci) (Hon). He went on to complete his Master of Pharmacy (MPharm) at the University of Sydney, before completing his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery(MBBS) at the Sydney School of Medicine (Notre Dame). Dr Chami also holds a Masters Degree in Financial Management (MFM) and a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Macquarie Graduate School of Management.

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