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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SYNOVA SETTLES PATENT INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT**

***Company Protects its Proprietary Water Jet-Guided Laser Technology***

**LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Jan. 18, 2006**—Synova, the world’s pioneer of water jet-guided laser technology, today announced the successful resolution of its patent infringement lawsuit against the bankruptcy estate of Prejet Präzisionstechnik AG, involving the company’s one-time construction of prototype laser cutting machines. In addition to acknowledging the validity of Synova’s patent, the court confirmed Prejet’s patent infringement and ruled that the estate has to pay a lump sum compensation of 60,000.00 Swiss Francs (CHF); transfer the copied prototype tool in possession by the estate to Synova; and provide reasonable access to all related documents and/or files.

Under the terms of the final settlement, the estate agreed to not appeal the earlier decision of the court, which found for Synova in regards to Prejet’s laser cutting prototypes that infringe on Synova’s technology patent EP 0 762 947. In return, Synova has agreed to not pursue future legal actions against the estate or Prejet’s former directors, along with waive any claims related to the previous sale of the sole Prejet laser cutting machine that is not in the estate’s possession. Meanwhile, Synova continues to seek a court injunction barring any use or re-sale of that tool.

“This settlement is an example of Synova’s commitment as a company to aggressively defend its proprietary water jet-guided laser technology,” said company officials. “We believe the legal actions that were taken and the outcome of this case demonstrate not only Synova’s commitment to defending its worldwide patent position, but also its ability to take aggressive and effective action, in the unfortunate instances where dialogue, by itself, proves ineffective.”

**About Synova**

Founded in 1997, Synova is a leading supplier of state-of-the-art laser solutions for the semiconductor, electronics, flat panel display (FPD) and industrial micro-machining industries, among others. As the inventor of laser dicing technology, Synova—through its proprietary Laser MicroJet® (water jet-guided laser) technology—is fast emerging as the ideal provider for addressing the exacting manufacturing specifications and low cost-of-ownership (CoO) requirements associated with the volume production of today’s advanced electronic devices. Headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland, Synova is a privately held company with subsidiaries located in Hong Kong, South Korea, Japan and the United States. Additional information about the company is available on the Internet at: [www.synova.ch](http://www.synova.ch)

*Laser MicroJet is a registered trademark of Synova.*