Adelaide, Australia, 17 October 2008 – Ellex Medical Lasers Limited (ASX:ELX), a global leader in the design and manufacture of ophthalmic laser and ultrasound systems, announced today the appointment of Mr. Giuseppe Canala and Mr. Malcolm Plunkett to its board of directors. Ellex also announced the appointment of Mr. Warwick Kitt as an adviser to the Company.

Giuseppe Canala FAICD is an experienced company director with a professional engineering and economics background. He currently serves as the Managing Director of Seghetti Estates Pty. Ltd., a private investment opportunities company, and is a major shareholder in Ellex Medical Lasers Limited. As an original co-founder of Ellex, Mr. Canala has extensive Company experience, having served Ellex in a broad range of management roles, including Director of Engineering, Director of Operations, and Managing Director. He also served as Chairman from 1990 to 2001.

Mr. Canala has been involved as a director, manager and investor in a range of laser companies including Laserex Technologies, a developer and manufacturer of gas laser and semiconductor laser products for consumer and industrial use based in Adelaide; and Laserex Inc, a manufacturer and distributor of laser products for the IT, medical and veterinary markets, based in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Prior to joining Ellex, Mr. Canala worked in the USA as a manufacturing engineer with CGR Medical Corp., producing medical X-Ray imaging equipment; and as Manufacturing Engineering Manager with SAFT America Inc., a military contractor.

Mr. Canala has a Bachelor of Technology in Electrical Engineering from the University of Adelaide and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Economics from La Trobe University, Melbourne Australia.

Malcolm Plunkett has worked at Ellex for 12 years in various roles and is currently the Managing Director of Ellex R&D Pty Ltd. and the head of Ellex’s Advanced Research group. Prior to his involvement with Ellex, Mr. Plunkett established and managed a successful contract engineering company and developed the original technology platform for Vision Systems Limited. He has nearly 40 years experience in the fields of electronics and engineering, including consumer electronics, mineral exploration, mineral analysis, electronic security systems and scientific instrumentation. During his career, Mr. Plunkett has been involved in the design, manufacture and export of high-technology products, a number of which have won industry awards.

During his time at Ellex, Mr. Plunkett has been instrumental in the establishment of design control and regulatory frameworks and is the author of five Ellex patents. His accomplishments include directing the development of the selective laser trabeculoplasty (SLT) technology platform, which has helped Ellex assume a leading position in the glaucoma treatment market.

More recently, in his role as the head of Advanced Research, Mr. Plunkett has led the Ellex 2RT (Retinal Regeneration Therapy) program, which was awarded a A$4M matching funds Commercial Ready Grant. He has been heavily involved with the Ellex 2RT clinical trials and ongoing laboratory experimentation.
Mr. Plunkett’s strong background in lasers and ophthalmology equips him with an excellent understanding of our ophthalmologist customers, their patients, and the variety of eye treatments that are available. He has also acquired a detailed knowledge of our competitors and the full intellectual property landscape.

“Warwick Kitt is an experienced and well respected manager with a wealth of experience in the ophthalmic industry, both globally and locally. Mr. Kitt retired from his role as Managing Director of Alcon Laboratories Australia in 2006. He has been a director of our Australian sales subsidiary, Ellex Australia Pty Ltd. for nearly two years and brings a great deal of expertise to our Company,” said Mr. Victor Previn, Ellex Chairman.

“The expansion of the Board has been on our agenda for some time and with these new appointments we are confident that we have brought together the experience and skills needed to guide Ellex through the current challenging economic landscape,” added Mr. Previn

ABOUT ELLEX

Ellex Medical Lasers Limited (ASX:ELX) designs, manufactures and markets a complete line of lasers and diagnostic ultrasound systems used by ophthalmologists to diagnose and treat eye diseases. With more than 12,000 systems delivered to the market, Ellex has evolved since 1985 from a manufacturing company of primarily OEM products, to direct marketing of its own branded products through subsidiaries in the United States, Japan and Australia, and a network of distribution partners in more than 100 countries. In December 2006 Ellex acquired Innovative Imaging, a leading provider of diagnostic ultrasound devices for ophthalmology, initiating the expansion of its product line beyond lasers. Ellex maintains a strong emphasis on intellectual property and research into new and better treatments to manage and treat the leading causes of blindness.

For additional information about Ellex and its products, please visit www.ellex.com.

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