

Align Technology Announces Favorable Ruling in Patent Infringement Suit With Ormco Corporation, a Division of Sybron Dental

SANTA CLARA, Calif., May 17 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Align Technology, Inc. (Nasdaq: ALGN), the inventor of Invisalign®, a proprietary method of straightening teeth without wires and brackets, announced today the favorable outcome of the patent litigation suit filed by Ormco Corporation, a division of Sybron Dental Specialties, Inc. (NYSE: SYD).

The United States District Court for the Central District, Southern Division, granted Align's motion for summary judgment of non-infringement in the patent infringement case brought against Align by Ormco Corporation in January 2003. Accordingly, Align has been found not to infringe Ormco's Patent Nos. 5,447,432, 5,683,243, 6,244,861 and 6,616,444. Align is represented by intellectual property specialty firm, Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP.

"We are very pleased with the Court's ruling which vindicates our position that we do not infringe any of Ormco's patents. We will continue to vigorously assert our rights and defend our intellectual property," said Thomas M. Prescott, President and CEO of Align Technology, Inc. "With this favorable ruling, we can continue to focus on providing the best quality product to our customers and returning excellent shareholder value."

About Align Technology, Inc.

Align Technology designs, manufactures and markets Invisalign, a proprietary method for treating malocclusion, or the misalignment of teeth. Invisalign corrects malocclusion using a series of clear, nearly invisible, removable appliances that gently move teeth to a desired final position. Because it does not rely on the use of metal or ceramic brackets and wires, Invisalign significantly reduces the aesthetic and other limitations associated with braces. Invisalign is appropriate for treating adults and older teens. Align Technology was founded in March 1997 and received FDA clearance to market Invisalign in 1998.

To learn more about Invisalign or to find a certified Invisalign doctor in your area, please visit www.invisalign.com or call 1-800-INVISIBLE.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements, including statements regarding Align's belief that the summary judgment will enable it to continue to focus on delivering quality product to its customers and returning excellent shareholder value and Align's intention to continue to defend its intellectual property. In addition, there is no assurance that the court's decision will not be overturned on appeal. Forward-looking statements contained in this news release relating to expectations about future events or results are based upon information available to Align as of the date hereof. Readers are cautioned that these forward-looking statements are only predictions and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. As a result, actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, risks relating to Align's ability to protect its intellectual property rights and potential intellectual property or product liability claims or litigation. These and other risks are detailed from time to time in Align's periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including, but not limited to, its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

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SOURCE Align Technology, Inc.

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