

March 11, 2005

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Announces Webcast of its Presentation at the 25th Annual SG Cowen Health Care Conference

Cambridge, MA, March 11, 2005 -- Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (Nasdaq: VRTX) will webcast its corporate presentation at SG Cowen's 25th Annual Health Care Conference in Boston. The presentation will be delivered by Joshua Boger, Ph.D., Vertex's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer on Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at 8:50 a.m. EST.

The presentation will be webcast live and may be accessed by visiting the Vertex website at <u>www.vrtx.com</u>. A replay of the webcast will also be available on the Company's website until March 30, 2005. To access the webcast, go to Vertex's website and select 'SG Cowen & Co. 25th Annual Health Care Conference.' To ensure a timely connection to the webcast, it is recommended that users register at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled webcast.

About Vertex

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated is a global biotechnology company committed to the discovery and development of breakthrough small molecule drugs for serious diseases. The Company's strategy is to commercialize its products both independently and in collaboration with major pharmaceutical companies. Vertex's product pipeline is principally focused on viral diseases, inflammation, autoimmune diseases and cancer. Vertex co-promotes the HIV protease inhibitor, Lexiva®, with GlaxoSmithKline.

Lexiva® is a registered trademark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.

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