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SMALL CAP BRIEFING

Ransom buys Health Perception for £7.8m

William Ransom, the natural healthcare company, is buying Health Perception UK for £7.83m in cash and shares in its fifth acquisition in three years.

Health Perception, the market leader in the rapidly growing glucosamine market, supplies branded vitamins, minerals and health food supplements to high street retailers including Boots, Tesco, Superdrug and J Sainsbury.

Ransom said it anticipated distribution synergies in home and export markets and said the acquisition should be earnings-enhancing within the current year.

David Wilkie MBE, Health Perception's founder and chief executive, and well known as an Olympic gold medal winner for swimming, is to remain with the business for at least two years.

Mr Wilkie said Health Perception joining Ransom "allows us to take the business to the next stage with access to wider distribution as well as Ransom's proven expertise in branded consumer healthcare products and product development skills". **Siobhan Cassidy**