

Charles River Prices Offering of 7,000,000 Shares

March 16, 2001

WILMINGTON, Mass.--(BW HealthWire)--March 16, 2001--Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. (NYSE:CRL) announced today that it had priced its public offering of 7,000,000 shares of common stock (excluding the underwriters' over-allotment option to purchase an additional 1,050,000 shares of common stock) at \$19 per share. Of the 7,000,000 shares, 3,500,000 are being sold by the Company and 3,500,000 are being sold by selling stockholders. The joint lead managers for the offering are Credit Suisse First Boston and Lehman Brothers. A prospectus relating to the offering can be obtained upon request from the syndicate department of Credit Suisse First Boston, 11 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010. (212-325-2000)

Charles River Laboratories, based in Wilmington, Massachusetts, is a leading provider of critical research tools and integrated support services that enable innovative and efficient drug discovery and development. The Company is the global leader in providing the animal research models required in research and development for new drugs, devices and therapies. The Company also offers a broad and growing portfolio of biomedical products and services that enable customers to reduce cost, increase speed, and enhance productivity and effectiveness in drug discovery and development. Charles River's customer base spans over 50 countries, and includes all of the major pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as many leading hospitals and academic institutions. The Company operates more than 66 facilities in 15 countries worldwide.

--30--mb/bos*

CONTACT: Charles River Laboratories

Dennis R. Shaughnessy Marcia Gookin Investor Relations 978-658-6000 ext. 1329

ir@criver.com