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Answering the need to document infection control measures in Central Processing Departments, Healthmark teams with BlackTie Medical to introduce ProFormanceQA™, the industry's first Web-based solution for consolidating all Central Sterile quality and infection control efforts into one, easy to use application.

Detroit, MI, October 10, 2008 – Health systems across the U.S. are under increasing pressure to limit and control hospital acquired infections (HAIs). In no place is this more acutely felt than in the busy Central Processing Department (CPD). Challenged by heavy workloads, frequent inspections and increasingly complex surgical instruments, sterile processing professionals are seeking to replace their archaic and isolated quality tracking systems with an integrated solution. Today, Healthmark Industries Co., Inc., a pioneering supplier of innovative solutions to the sterile processing industry has teamed with BlackTie Medical, a leading provider of novel healthcare process improvement systems, to develop and market **ProFormanceQA™**, a web-based service for automating and consolidating all central sterile quality tracking measures.

Whether operating one location or managing numerous CPD sites across a large network of healthcare facilities, ProFormanceQA™ enables the sterile processing professional to view, monitor, control and report on their staff's efforts to test and record quality measures for the proper reprocessing of surgical instruments.

“We recognize that an aggressive infection control monitoring process is an essential component of a CPD's quality assurance program,” said Stephen Kovach, Director of Education, Healthmark Industries Co, Inc. “Unfortunately too many CPD's are forced to contend with multiple paper-based documentation logs, outdated procedures and virtually no centralized reporting capability.” Kovach continued, “As Joint Commission increasingly focuses on CPD operations, we recognize that it is critical that we offer our customers a new approach. We believe that BlackTie's focus on modernizing outdated

healthcare processes via an Internet-based system offers the exact vehicle our customers need to implement this quality improvement program.”

Following a simple registration process, each department manager can immediately access ProFormanceQA™ and begin to “map” their staff, their sterile processing locations and the equipment found in each location. As each location profile is created the manager has the option of selecting individual test elements such as testing frequency and sub-elements (e.g., instrument washers, ultrasonics, AER’s, etc.). The entire BlackTie platform is HIPAA compliant so it is also possible to record specific procedure details like Medical Record Number (MRN) when documenting patient specific results such as with surgery-based flash sterilizers.

The CPD staff member interaction with ProFormanceQA™ consists of a simple, graphically oriented, and up-to-date list of tests that need to be performed in each location. To conduct a specific test, the staff member simply clicks on the color coded icon, provides the results to each test question, adds any relevant notes and then hits “Save”. If there are no colorful icons displayed for a location, no tests are currently due.

Built in alerts and automatic notification features within ProFormanceQA™ keep managers and other support staff aware of any over-due or failed tests.

Customizable reports, searches and display graphics complete the ProFormanceQA™ experience and make sure that all managers are ready for their next Joint Commission inspection or infection control review.

“We created the BlackTie platform to extend and enhance the good work that so many people perform every day in hospitals across the country,” explained Thad Mac Krell, CEO of BlackTie Medical. “We believe that Healthmark’s deep knowledge and strong reputation in this industry makes them the perfect partner for BlackTie Medical and we look forward to supporting their efforts to bring the ProFormanceQA™ solution to the market as rapidly as possible.”

Interested in learning how you can start using ProFormance QA today? Please contact Healthmark Industries at (800) 521 – 6224.

About Healthmark Industries Co., Inc.

Since 1969, Healthmark has been a leading innovator of products and solutions for the Sterile Processing Professional. Whether the challenge is technological or regulatory, Healthmark has developed products which meet the ever changing needs of the sterile processing industry. We have sought to do so by first and foremost, listening to our customers. Innovations include the SST instrument retrieval system (to meet OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Guidelines) and most recently the ProFormance™ line of products, the first in the industry to provide independent verification of the cleaning process.

About BlackTie Medical

BlackTie Medical is a leading provider of Internet-based, healthcare process improvement and supply chain solutions for hospitals and health systems. Designing all its applications around the same “engine,” BlackTie identifies informal conditions that exist in nearly every hospital and then delivers simple, easy-to-use applications to formalize these processes in a way that complements and extends the functionality available from a hospital’s existing materials and clinical platforms.

In addition to ProFormanceQA, current BlackTie applications include:

BlackTie “HandOff” – brings automation, control and pricing accuracy to bill-only, walk-in and consignment transactions in hospital surgery, radiology and cardiology departments.

BlackTie “Implant Trace” – a hospital-wide tool for implant documentation that consolidates implant records, documents recall investigations and automatically forwards Class 1 implant records to vendors in a secure, HIPAA-compliant manner.

BlackTie “Contract Cache” – a turn-key and cost-effective solution for uploading contracts and other documents into a digital storage environment and importing key contract details into the hospital MMIS automatically.

BlackTie Applications are designed to be compatible with all versions of Lawson, McKesson (PMM), Oracle, PeopleSoft, Meditech and other MMIS platforms.

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