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MCC NAMES ACRO LEADERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MCC Board Expanded to Include Two ACRO Representatives

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 30, 2008) – The Association of Clinical Research Organizations (ACRO) and the Metrics Champion Consortium (MCC) are pleased to announce the appointment of two representatives from ACRO to the MCC Board of Directors. In an agreement reached earlier this month between the two groups, the MCC, a multidisciplinary organization whose mission is to develop biopharmaceutical performance standards, has expanded its Board of Directors to include two positions representing ACRO, the global association of leading clinical research organizations (CROs).

Paul Colvin, R.Ph., Senior Vice President for Clinical Development, North America, with PPD, and Sean Larkin, Senior Executive Vice President, the Americas, for Late Stage Development with PharmaNet Development Group, have been appointed by the MCC Board of Directors to join the MCC leadership on behalf of ACRO.

Mr. Colvin oversees PPD's North American Phase II-IV operational unit, providing strategic leadership to ensure delivery of international and global clinical research programs and coordination of operational processes. At PharmaNet Development Group, Mr. Larkin is responsible for the North American Regional Monitoring Network, clinical operations in Latin America and Canada, and Phase IV development services. Mr. Colvin and Mr. Larkin will assume their MCC Board seats in August 2008.

"We value the knowledge and perspective ACRO's representatives will bring to MCC's Board of Directors," said Guy Mascaro, MCC President. "ACRO's support for our organization is an important step in building a collaborative environment where sponsors and CROs can work together to improve clinical trial performance."

"The association is pleased to be represented by two outstanding industry leaders such as Paul Colvin and Sean Larkin on the MCC Board of Directors," added ACRO Executive Director Doug Peddicord, Ph.D. "ACRO looks forward to including the CRO industry's expertise on the conduct of clinical trials in MCC's initiatives and to adding the association's voice to the leadership of this valuable cross-industry organization."

ACRO's representatives will serve for one-year terms on MCC's Board of Directors. Mr. Larkin will serve for a special 18-month term to allow for continuity between the two ACRO Board positions with a 6-month overlap between all future representatives.

About ACRO

The Association of Clinical Research Organizations (ACRO) is the professional organization of companies whose focus is clinical research. The association is the voice of the CRO industry, which provides specialized services that are integral to the development of drugs, biologics and medical devices. ACRO helps its members improve the quality, efficiency and safety of biomedical research. For more information on ACRO, please visit www.acrohealth.org.

About MCC

The Metrics Champion Consortium (MCC) is an open, multidisciplinary, non-profit organization comprised of biotechnology, pharmaceutical and service provider organizations. The mission of MCC is to develop, through a collaborative process, Performance Metrics within the Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical industry with the intent to jointly encourage performance improvement, effectiveness, efficiency, and appropriate levels of controls for both Sponsors and Service Providers. For more information, please visit www.metrichampion.org.

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