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Southcoast Health System receives national business IT award *Southcoast recognized by CIO magazine as one of the “CIO 100 Award” honorees*

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — IDG’s *CIO* magazine announced Southcoast Health System as a recipient of the 2010 CIO 100 Award. The 23rd annual award program recognizes organizations around the world that exemplify the highest level of operational and strategic excellence in information technology (IT).

“This year’s CIO 100 awards draws well-deserved attention to companies that are not only innovating with IT, but creating genuine business value as well,” said Maryfran Johnson, Editor in Chief of *CIO* magazine & events. “These winning companies and their IT organizations are an inspiration to businesses everywhere.”

The 2010 CIO 100 Awards will be presented at the 12th annual CIO 100 Symposium® and Awards Ceremony in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., on August 24. In addition to Southcoast Health System, 2010 CIO 100 award recipients included Allstate Insurance, AT&T, FedEx, JetBlue Airways and Sodexo. The complete list can be found at www.cio.com.

Southcoast was recognized for innovations in technology for three key areas: the broad application of wireless technology across several continuums of care in a hospital setting; the implementation of a nursing documentation component streamlining charting and care planning which in turn allowed nurses to spend more time with patients, and the implementation of technology to allow access to patient-care and diagnostics applications from a single wireless device.

“There is little debate that effective use of information technology and the electronic medical record are essential to achieving high-quality outcomes and improving access to care,” said Christopher Baldwin, Vice President of Information Services for Southcoast Health System. “Southcoast is honored to

receive the top 100 CIO Award as recognition for all the progress we have made for the entire Southcoast Health System, which includes the three Southcoast Hospitals and more than 40 ancillary sites across the region.”

Southcoast’s Advanced Clinical Information Systems project is transitioning the organization from paper to electronic medical records. These systems improve information sharing among health care providers as well as provide decision support tools, such as drug/allergy interaction alerts and chemotherapy dosing protocols — all to provide the best possible care to our patients while improving overall facility efficiency. The underpinning of the project was a wireless Local Area Network (LAN) infrastructure that was much more reliable than legacy wireless networks. The new LAN, a product of Bluesocket™, made reliable computerized documentation at the bedside possible, enabling staff to securely collect, store, share and access patient data using mobile devices such as laptops and tablets.

“Southcoast’s use of the Bluesocket wireless solution was an exercise of incredible vision. Southcoast leveraging our wireless technology to increase the efficiency of hospital staff and to ultimately save lives is an invited use of our solution,” said Mads Lillelund, Chief Executive Officer at Bluesocket.

The wireless LAN infrastructure is available across the entire health system, including the Emergency Departments, inpatient and outpatient care sites, Southcoast’s Center for Cancer Care and some off-site physician offices. This same technology also allowed the added benefit of visitor access to free WiFi within the hospitals.

“Computer networks play an essential role in health care,” Baldwin said. “Advancements such as this significantly streamline record keeping, enabling staff to dedicate more time to patient care. It also improves our clinicians’ ability to provide care. The demand for advanced technology and communication tools in the health care setting continues to increase and play a key role in the success of any organization. Southcoast is committed to investing in a system that not only meets the current needs, but positions the entire health system for the future.”

As an example, the Southcoast Centers for Cancer Care are using wireless technology to support a wide array of oncology software applications, from radiation treatment planning to nurse documentation and direct entry of chemotherapy orders by physicians. “These are part of a comprehensive program to provide the best possible cancer care to our communities,” Baldwin said.

About the CIO 100

The recipients of the 2010 CIO 100 Awards were selected through a three-step process. First, companies filled out an online application form detailing their innovative IT and business initiatives. Next, a team of judges reviewed the applications in depth, looking for unique practices and substantial results. Finally, *CIO* editors reviewed the judges’ recommendations and voted on the final 100. Once the

top 100 honorees were selected, several honorees were chosen to receive an additional special award. The recipients of this special award will be revealed at the CIO 100 awards ceremony in August.

Complete coverage of the 2010 CIO 100 awards will be online at www.cio.com on June 1 and in the August 2010 issue of *CIO* magazine.

About *CIO* Magazine

CIO produces award-winning content and community resources for information technology executives thriving and prospering in this fast-paced era of business, as well as create opportunities for information technology and consumer marketers to reach them. The CIO portfolio includes CIO.com, *CIO* magazine (launched in 1987), CIO Executive Programs and the CIO Executive Council. CIO properties provide business technology leaders with analysis and insight on information technology trends and a keen understanding of IT's role in achieving business goals. The U.S. edition of the magazine and website are recipients of more than 200 awards to date, including three Grand Neals from the Jesse H. Neal National Business Journalism Awards and two Magazine of the Year awards from the National Society of Business Publication Editors. CIO websites and magazines appear in more than 25 countries, including Australia, Canada, China, France and Germany. CIO are produced by CXO Media a subsidiary of International Data Group (IDG), the world's leading technology media, research and event company.

About Southcoast Health System & Southcoast Hospitals Group

Southcoast Health System is a community based health delivery system with multiple access points, offering an integrated continuum of health services throughout Southeastern Massachusetts and East Bay, Rhode Island. It includes the three hospitals that make up Southcoast Hospitals Group — Charlton Memorial Hospital in Fall River, St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford and Tobey Hospital in Wareham.

Southcoast provides advanced clinical services, such as open heart surgery, angioplasty and heart rhythm services, neurosurgery, weight loss surgery, orthopedic surgery and advanced imaging services. Southcoast is a not-for-profit charitable organization that depends on the support of the community to provide services.

More information is available online at www.southcoast.org.

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