



Covidien Receives 2010 Zenith Award from the American Association of Respiratory Care for Dedicated Service to the Respiratory Care Industry

Covidien, a leading global provider of healthcare products and recognised innovator in mechanical ventilation and respiratory care devices, today announced that it has received the prestigious American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) Zenith Award for 2010. This marks the 21st year that the company has received this award.

"To be recognised by our customers in the respiratory care industry is a great honor, and an affirmation that what we do makes a difference for clinicians and the patients they serve," said Pete Wehrly, President, Respiratory and Monitoring Solutions, Covidien. The Zenith Awards were established in 1989 to recognise respiratory care product and service providers who provide the respiratory care community with exemplary service. Each year the association's 52,000 members select five companies out of nearly 400 to receive a Zenith Award. Each company is evaluated

based on the following criteria: quality of equipment and/or supplies, accessibility and helpfulness of sales personnel, responsiveness, service record, truth in advertising and support of the respiratory profession. The AARC, a professional membership association of respiratory therapists, focuses primarily on respiratory therapy education and research. Its goals are to ensure that respiratory patients receive safe and effective care from qualified professionals. The Association advocates on behalf of pulmonary patients for appropriate access to respiratory services provided by qualified professionals. "The companies that receive a Zenith Award make a substantial investment in providing state-of-the-art products that benefit the lives of respiratory patients," said S. P. Giordano, Executive Director and CEO, AARC. "The members of our association select the companies that have earned the trust and respect of respiratory therapists who use their products every day to deliver high quality care to their patients." Covidien has a long history of providing highest-quality products for all respiratory care areas: airways, patient monitoring and ventilation.

Covidien's market-leading respiratory brands — Nellcor™, PuritanBennett™, Mallinckrodt™, DAR™ and Shiley™ — offer an extensive range of solutions for respiratory clinicians. "Covidien is dedicated to patient safety, clinical efficacy and efficiency in the healthcare setting, and we are honored once again to receive this acknowledgement of our products and service," Wehrly said.

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