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HEALTHCARE COALITION OF TEXAS (HCT) JOINS HEALTH INDUSTRY GROUP PURCHASING ASSOCIATION (HIGPA)

GPO Industry Continues to Offer Cost Savings and Value to Hospitals with New Association Member

Washington, D.C. (February 23, 2011) – The Healthcare Coalition of Texas (HCT), a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Plano, Texas, today announced that it has joined the Health Industry Group Purchasing Association (HIGPA), effective **February 23, 2011**.

“The Healthcare Coalition of Texas shares HIGPA’s mission of helping Americans receive high quality patient care by providing cost savings and valuable services to hospitals and healthcare providers,” said HIGPA Chair Todd Ebert. “HIGPA is looking forward to working with our new partners at HCT and continuing to offer innovative services and the best products at the best value to our member hospitals.”

“The Healthcare Coalition of Texas exists to provide not-for-profit hospitals and healthcare systems in Texas with a trusted environment to work together to improve quality of patient care and economic performance,” said HCT President and CEO Geoffrey Brenner. “We are delighted to join HIGPA and collaborate on best practices in healthcare transparency and providing savings to Texas hospitals.”

About Healthcare Coalition of Texas

Healthcare Coalition of Texas (www.hcotx.com), based in Plano, Texas, is a member-led organization representing 17 community-based hospitals and healthcare systems across Texas. Founded on the principle of its members’ dedication to each other and their collective strength, the group shares knowledge, adopts best practices and collaborates on innovative programs in a committed fashion to improve overall performance.

About HIGPA

The Health Industry Group Purchasing Association (HIGPA) is a broad-based trade association that represents 16 group purchasing organizations, including for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, purchasing groups, associations, multi-hospital systems and healthcare provider alliances. HIGPA’s mission is to advocate on behalf of health care group purchasing associations, to provide educational opportunities designed to improve efficiencies in the purchase, sale and utilization of all goods and services within the health industry and to promote meaningful dialogue between GPOs.

www.higpa.org.