

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Ted Merhoff
Vice President
(o) 615-313-4214
(f) 615-313-4214
tmerhoff@hccaintl.com
www.hccaintl.com

**HCCA INTERNATIONAL AWARDED CERTIFICATION FROM
JOINT COMMISSION**

Brentwood, Tennessee (18 July 2007) HCCA International has achieved the Gold Seal of Approval™ for health care staffing services from The Joint Commission.

HCCA underwent an on-site review of its compliance with national standards addressing how health care staffing firms determine and develop the qualifications and competency of their staff, how they place their staff, and how they monitor staff's performance.

“Health care organizations that contract with HCCA can look to this certification as an assurance that HCCA demonstrates a commitment to providing and continuously improving quality services,” says Michele Sacco, M.S., executive director, Health Care Staffing Services Certification, Joint Commission.

Winnie Fritz, Chief Nurse Executive of HCCA says the “the ongoing shortage of registered nurses has led health care organizations across America to implement innovative nurse recruitment and retention strategies. Likewise, hospitals, schools of nursing, and legislatures are also collaborating to increase the number of newly graduated nurses.”

Fritz also comments, “While these efforts are underway, hospitals working with HCCA are also filling a portion of their vacant positions with full time, internationally experienced nurses sponsored as immigrants and prepared to practice in America by HCCA.”

HCCA and its client hospitals carefully match each nurse and family to communities across America with the goal of helping to increase the size and stability of each client hospital's nurse workforce.

MORE

The Joint Commission's staffing agency certification program, launched in October 2004, offers an independent, comprehensive evaluation of a staffing firm's abilities to provide competent staffing services.

"Certification recognizes HCCA's dedication to providing qualified internationally experienced nurses who provide safe, high-quality care to patients," says Ron Marston, HCCA's President and CEO "We're proud to receive the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™."

+++++

Founded in 1973, **HCCA International** has as its core businesses two offerings: to recruit, deploy, and support internationally experienced nurses for its U.S. client hospitals and to provide management services to acute care hospitals worldwide. Established as the international division of HCA, HCCA has management and recruitment experience in over twenty-seven countries. Additionally HCCA has recruited over 30,000 people to work in hospitals around the world. HCCA was spun off from HCA in 1989 and is now privately held. HCCA's offices are located in Brentwood, Tennessee; London, England, Abu Dhabi, UAE; and Manila, Philippines. HCCA also maintains operations in India and Singapore. Learn more about HCCA at www.hccaintl.com.

Founded in 1951, **The Joint Commission** seeks to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through the provision of health care accreditation and related services that support performance improvement in health care organizations. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits nearly 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 8,000 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 6,800 other health care organizations that provide long term care, assisted living, behavioral health care, laboratory and ambulatory care services. The Joint Commission also accredits health plans, integrated delivery networks, and other managed care entities. In addition, the Joint Commission provides certification of disease-specific care programs, primary stroke centers, and health care staffing services. An independent, not-for-profit organization, the Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about the Joint Commission at www.jointcommission.org.

END