



**Health Industry
Business
Communications
Council**

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HIBC STANDARDS ENDORSED BY NEW SOUTH WALES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PHOENIX, ARIZONA (July 24, 2003) – The New South Wales Department of Health (NSW Health) has announced their formal endorsement of the Health Industry Bar Code (HIBC) Standards, developed and maintained by the Health Industry Business Communications Council (HIBCC), for product identification and procurement in the state of New South Wales (NSW).

In keeping with their goal of facilitating more efficient management of supply chain information, including product distribution, inventory control, and data capture abilities, NSW Health has recommended the HIBC Standards for identification of products purchased within their system. The state of New South Wales is the center of economic development for Australia and includes Sydney, as well as the Federal capital in Canberra.

NSW Health is comprised of 206 General Public Hospitals, 13 Operational Multi Purpose Services, 280 Community Health Centres, 500 early Childhood Health Centres, and 15 Nursing Homes. Through its management, NSW Health funds public health services, develops policy, supports the statutory role of the Minister for Health, manages public health issues, and monitors the performance of the health system in the coordination and delivery of healthcare services.

“The NSW endorsement highlights the substantial benefits to be realized by the international healthcare community through standardized identification,” states HIBCC President Robert A. Hankin, “and it further reinforces the importance of the HIBC Standards globally.”

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Established in 1984 by leading healthcare associations, HIBCC is the primary standard-setting and educational organization for bar coding and e-commerce initiatives in the world of healthcare. HIBCC's mission is to improve the quality, efficiency and cost effectiveness of the healthcare industry by fostering and promoting automated business communications. The HIBCC mission is extended globally via a network of HIBCC offices located throughout the world.

The HIBC Supplier Labeling and Provider Application Standards are accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). Copies of the Standards can be downloaded from the HIBCC Web site at www.hibcc.org/autoidupn/standards.htm.

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