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REVISED: HIBC SUPPLIER LABELING STANDARD
Draft Revision Available for Second Public Comment Period

PHOENIX, ARIZONA (March 17, 2008)- The Health Industry Bar Code (HIBC) Supplier Labeling Standard (SLS) has been revised again and is currently available for review during the second public comment period. Modifications include changes made as a result of resolutions from the initial public comment period.

The SLS (ANSI/HIBC 2.3) is a revision of ANSI/HIBC 2.2-2006. The HIBC SLS was developed by HIBCC and representatives from throughout the healthcare industry to provide healthcare specific data structures and labeling options for medical/surgical products. The SLS includes the HIBC-LIC data format, a variable length alphanumeric format for primary identification of medical goods, as well as secondary information critical to healthcare processes such as lot/batch/serial number, expiration date and a secure link character. It was originally approved as an American National Standard (ANS) by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in 1997 (ANSI/HIBC-2).

Draft revision ANSI/HIBC 2.3 of the HIBC Supplier Labeling Standard can be accessed from www.hibcc.org. Comments should be directed to the HIBCC office at info@hibcc.org with a copy sent to the ANSI Board of Standards Review. The public comment period will conclude April 28, 2008. Please contact the HIBCC office at (602) 381-1091 with any questions.

About HIBCC: HIBCC is an industry-sponsored, ANSI-accredited standards development organization (SDO), established in 1984 by major national healthcare associations to develop and maintain information technology standards for healthcare applications. HIBCC provides standards for uniform product identification (bar coding, 2-D, and RFID), as well as services for standardized customer identification, such as its Health Industry Number (HIN) System.

HIBCC extends its mission globally via IHIBCC, an international network of HIBCC offices. HIBCC and the HIBC Standards are accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). HIBCC plays a major advocacy and educational role for the healthcare industry by providing a forum for consensus-based standards development.

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