



**Media Contacts:**

Janet Cabibbo  
Amendola Communications  
480.664.8412 ext. 15  
jcabibbo@ACmarketingPR.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**UNIVERSITY HEALTHSYSTEM CONSORTIUM NAMES ASCENT HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS  
SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR AT UHC 2009 PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE FORUM**

*Award recognizes Ascent programs for delivering optimum value and customer satisfaction for UHC members representing about 90% of the nation's nonprofit academic medical centers*

**Phoenix, Ariz. – Apr. 7, 2009** – Ascent Healthcare Solutions, a leader in delivering healthcare resource sustainability, announced today that University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC)—an alliance of 103 academic medical centers and 210 of their affiliated hospitals, representing approximately 90% of the nation's nonprofit academic medical centers (AMCs)—presented Ascent with the inaugural UHC Supplier of the Year award at the UHC 2009 Performance Excellence Forum. UHC selected Ascent as the winner of this prestigious award based on the measurable value of Ascent's remanufacturing and reprocessing program for AMCs, customer service, and contract performance.

UHC and its contracting services company, Novation, offer UHC members a competitively priced portfolio of purchasing contracts that cover 85% of the products and services needed by AMCs.

Roberta G. Graham, UHC's Executive Vice President, stated, "We selected Ascent as the winner of our UHC Supplier of the Year award because its program provides unique and exceptional value to our AMCs in terms of reducing costs and reducing overall impact to the environment."

Graham, who oversees operations and supply chain services, noted that the program is consistent with UHC's drive to optimize the supply chain, accelerate the achievement of operational excellence, and create a successful and environmentally responsible path for its members.

Kevin Liszewski, Ascent's Vice President of Corporate Accounts, stated, "We are honored to be chosen as the first winner of this award. Receiving recognition for our program's cost savings and environmental stewardship, as well as the high level of customer care we provide, is validation of the complete solution we offer and differentiates Ascent as a sustainability leader."

In 2008, Ascent provided UHC members with more than \$11.2 million in supply chain savings and elimination of more than 176,000 pounds of waste from local landfills.

### **About University HealthSystem Consortium**

University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC), formed in 1984, is an alliance of 103 academic medical centers and 210 of their affiliated hospitals, representing approximately 90% of the nation's nonprofit academic medical centers. UHC offers its members specific programs and services to improve clinical, operational, financial, and patient safety performance. The mission of UHC is to advance knowledge, foster collaboration, and promote change to help members succeed in their respective markets. For more information, visit [www.uhc.edu](http://www.uhc.edu).

### **ABOUT ASCENT HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

By continuously pioneering sustainability initiatives in healthcare, Ascent Healthcare Solutions has become a leader in the medical device industry. Ascent's programs target inefficient practices to reclaim and redirect consumable and financial resources to promote healthy and responsible hospitals. Today, Ascent's medical device sustainability programs deliver remanufactured and/or reprocessed medical devices as well as comprehensive recycling and redistribution initiatives. Ascent has been recognized as a "Champion for Change" by Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (now Practice Greenhealth) in recognition of the dramatic environmental benefits its remanufacturing and reprocessing programs provide to U.S. hospitals and surgery centers. Ascent's more than 1,800 hospital partners include most of the *U.S. News & World Report* "Honor Roll" hospitals. The company has agreements with all leading national group purchasing organizations as well as numerous nationally recognized hospital integrated delivery networks. For more information about Ascent Healthcare Solutions, visit [www.ascenths.com](http://www.ascenths.com).

###