

P R E S S R E L E A S E



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The St. John Companies is pleased to announce we have been awarded the
Premier Ascend *Sole-Source* Three Year Contract
for Patient Identification, Labels and related products.**

February, 2010 --- Premier Purchasing Partners (San Diego, CA). This three year contract is effective February 1, 2010 and provides Premier members exceptional products, service and pricing. St. John has been Premier's contracted supplier since 2004.

Under terms of the agreement, St. John will be the chosen Patient ID, Labels, and Related Products provider to Premier's Ascend membership which is approximately 131 U.S. hospitals and 123 other healthcare sites of all:

- Short-run and systems labels covering every department, including the lab, pharmacy, nursing, central service, imaging, blood bank, and admissions.
- Wristbands included are Conf-ID-ent™ barcode thermal and laser, shield, imprinter, insert, write-on, mother/father/baby, blood bands, companion labels and color code alerts including St. John's patent pending In-A-Snap™ alert claps, which are fast becoming the #1 choice for consolidating admit and alert wristbands.
- Medical records supplies including stock and custom file folders and chart dividers, flags and tags, film envelopes, and outguides.
- Spee-D-Mark™ nipple, mole, scar, and lump skin markers.

About The St. John Companies

The St. John Companies Inc. has been dedicated to exclusively serving the healthcare community since 1965. Currently, more than 90% of all U.S. hospitals and thousands of alternate care facilities are active St. John customers. St. John offers over 100,000 products for the patient identification, patient safety, healthcare label, medical imaging and medical records marketplace, enabling vendor consolidating, simplified purchasing and significant cost savings.

About Premier

Serving more than 2,200 U.S. hospitals and 63,000-plus other healthcare sites, the Premier healthcare alliance and its members are transforming healthcare together. Nearly 200 hospitals and health systems created and entirely own the Premier alliance. Premier's core purpose is "To improve the health of communities."