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MINNESOTA HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE (MN HIE) ANNOUNCED AS FINALIST FOR 10TH ANNUAL TEKNE AWARDS

MHTA will recognize Minnesota's top technology companies and individuals at the Oct.22 awards ceremony

St. Paul, Minnesota, Sept. 15, 2009 – The Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) has named the Minnesota Health Information Exchange (MN HIE), as a finalist in the Innovative Collaboration of the Year category for the 2009 Tekne Awards, which will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Thursday, Oct. 22. The Tekne Awards recognize Minnesota companies and individuals who have shown superior technology innovation and leadership.

MN HIE is an essential element of health care reform in Minnesota and a unique example of public-private collaboration to improve the health of all Minnesotans. MN HIE currently facilitates sharing of patient medication history among health care providers and, by October, services will also include exchange of lab results, immunization records, eligibility information, and patient health records to support continuity of care.

"We are honored to be recognized for our achievement and are very excited about new MN HIE services that will allow providers to exchange an even broader range of patient information," said Michael Ubl, MN HIE Executive Director.

Presented by the MHTA in partnership with LifeScience Alley and Enterprise Minnesota, the Tekne Awards annually recognize Minnesota's best and brightest technology users and developers in innovation, development, education, commercialization and management. A full list of finalists is available online at <http://www.tekneawards.org>.

"For 10 years the Tekne Awards have recognized those who make groundbreaking contributions to the growth of technology in Minnesota," said Kate Rubin, president of MHTA. "This year's finalists should be extremely proud of their role in helping Minnesota excel at producing cutting-edge technology and continue to be a great place to do business."

Recipients of the 2009 Tekne Awards will be announced at the award ceremony on Oct. 22. The event will begin with a VIP reception at 4:30 p.m., followed by general registration and reception at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., the awards ceremony at 7 p.m., and a post-Tekne party at 8:30 p.m. The event will be emceed by John Sweeney, author of *Innovation at the Speed of Laughter*, and owner of the Brave New Workshop, the nation's oldest satirical comedy theatre.

To register for the 2009 Tekne Awards ceremony, visit www.tekneawards.org or contact Lonni Ranallo at 952-230-4555 or lrnanallo@mhta.org.

About MN HIE

MN HIE is a not-for-profit organization with a public/private governance model that includes providers, health plans, and the State of Minnesota. MN HIE is the state-wide secure electronic network and record locator service designed to share clinical and administrative data among providers in Minnesota and bordering states. MN HIE's purpose is to improve the health of all Minnesotans through more informed decision making by the provider and patient at the point of care. To protect patient privacy in accordance with state and federal law, patients grant consent for clinical information sharing. Visit www.MNHIE.org to learn more.

About Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA)

The Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) accelerates the growth, sustainability and global competitiveness of Minnesota's technology-based economy through public policy advocacy, member collaboration and education, and community outreach. MHTA is the only membership organization that represents Minnesota's entire technology-based economy. MHTA members include organizations of every size – involved in virtually every aspect of technology creation, production, application and education in Minnesota. MHTA works in partnership with TechAmerica, which represents Minnesota's technology organizations nationally. Find out more online at www.mhta.org or follow MHTA on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/MHTA>.

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