

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Four Silicon Valley Healthcare Companies Achieve Semi-Finalist Status for ABL ABBY Awards

10th Annual *Innovations in Healthcare*SM Awards Event to be held April 23, 2008

Orange, CA, January 24, 2008... Four Silicon Valley companies have been selected as Semi-Finalists for the 2008 ABBY Awards, to be presented at the 10th Annual *Innovations in Healthcare*SM Awards Event, on April 23, 2008, hosted by the Adaptive Business Leaders (ABL) Organization. These awards honor innovative companies from throughout the country, who have *proven* ways to lower the cost of providing quality healthcare through their medical or information technology, or innovative approaches to the delivery of healthcare.

The criteria for the 10th Annual ABBY Awards competition is particularly demanding: each of the Semi-Finalists in the categories of medical/biotech/diagnostic technology, healthcare information or telecom technology, and approach to the *delivery* of healthcare must have demonstrated that they are:

- innovative
- approved for use in the U.S. marketplace
- have *clinical and financial* metrics that *prove* their technology or approach reduces the cost of providing quality healthcare

"This year's national ABBY competition drew entries from ten states and the District of Columbia, resulting in the selection of 46 Semi-Finalists," noted ABL's President Mimi Grant. "This truly is a significant accomplishment for these companies, since each of them survived this first hurdle – when literally thousands of healthcare and life science companies would not even qualify to be nominated for an ABBY, and over 40 additional nominees were disqualified for not responding with proof of meeting *all three* of the criteria."

The next step "on the road to the ABBY" will occur on January 30, when each of the Semi-Finalists will be "presented" and discussed by their "Champions," a group of leaders of healthcare service, information and medical technology firms, who will make the difficult decision of selecting just three Finalists in each of the three ABBY Award categories. These nine Finalists will then present before a live audience at the 10th Annual *Innovations in Healthcare*SM Awards Event, which will take place at the Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel, in Costa Mesa, on April 23. Based on each Finalist's live presentation of the significance of their healthcare innovation, the audience, composed of senior healthcare and life science executives, will determine the three winners who will take home their ABBY Awards.

Nominated in the Innovative Approaches to the Delivery of Healthcare category:

Boulder Creek's **HeartMath, LLC** has earned global recognition for its unique research-based techniques and proprietary technology to transform the stress of change and uncertainty, bringing renewed energy to the workplace and home. HeartMath has proven stress reduction results in reduced staff turnover, improved employee and patient satisfaction, and reduced healthcare costs.

Nominated in the Innovations in Healthcare Information Technology and Telecommunications Technology category:

Mountain View's **eHealth, Inc.** is the parent company of eHealthInsurance, the leading online source of health insurance for individuals, families and small businesses. Recent enhancements to their eHealth.com site enable even more specific "plan-member" matching by geography and special benefits provided by over 150 health insurance carriers, offering over 5,000 health insurance products.

Nominated in the Innovations in Medical/BioTechnology category:

Sunnyvale's **Accuray, Inc.** is a global leader in the field of radiosurgery dedicated to providing an improved quality of life and a non-surgical treatment option for those diagnosed with cancer. Its CyberKnife® Robotic Radiosurgery System is the world's only robotic radiosurgery system designed to treat tumors anywhere in the body non-invasively and with sub-millimeter accuracy.

Palo Alto's **Aragon Surgical, Inc.** invents, develops, and commercializes surgical products that reduce operative time and improve patient safety. Its Surgical LapCap ensures that, in laparoscopic procedures, blind needle passage is safe, simple, rapid and predictable, by utilizing simple suction to rapidly elevate the abdominal wall, creating a "safe space" into which the needle is passed.

ALL OF THE FACTS ABOUT THE ABBY AWARDS:

10th Annual *Innovations in Healthcare*SM Awards and Event Ceremony

April 23, 2008 - Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel, Costa Mesa, California

11 am to 6 pm (Exhibits and Networking Lunch through Celebration Reception)

Three 2008 ABBY Awards will be given, which honor *innovative* companies in the healthcare industry that are currently providing *proven* ways to lower the cost of providing quality healthcare through their medical or information technology, or innovative approaches to the delivery of healthcare.

Nine ABBY Award Finalists (three in each category) will be selected in three categories:

Innovative Approaches to the Delivery of Healthcare

Innovations in Healthcare IT and Telecommunications Technology

Innovations in Medical / BioTechnology

ABBY Award Winners will be selected (by secret ballot) by the senior healthcare industry executives attending the *Innovations in Healthcare Awards Event*, after hearing presentations by the senior executive from each Finalist company.

Attendance is open to ABL Members, as well as non-Member senior executives of healthcare providers and payers, as well as leaders of therapeutic, diagnostic, medical device and healthcare information and services firms.

For more information, please contact Laura Grant at ABL at (714) 245-1425 or visit ABL's website at <http://www.abl.org>

Hosted by the Adaptive Business Leaders (ABL) Organization:

In April, ABL will celebrate its 10th Annual *Innovations in Healthcare*SM Awards Event, honoring healthcare industry leaders whose products and services are not just innovative, but are truly reducing the cost of providing quality healthcare. Past ABBY Award nominees and winners have included companies that have made breakthroughs and transformative advances in medical devices, diagnostics, therapeutics, information technology and electronic solutions, as well as organizations that have applied innovative systems and technology to providing care and coverage, decreasing the numbers of uninsured, and engaging healthcare consumers more actively in their care and health status.

Recent ABBY Award winners have included: Aperio Technologies, Inc.; BeWell Mobile Technology Inc.; Care Level Management; eHealth, Inc.; eV3, Inc.'s Neurovascular Division; FoxHollow Technologies, Inc.; Gen-Probe, Inc.; Health Hero Network, Inc.; I-Flow; IPC - The Hospitalist Company; Kaiser Permanente's eHealth Initiatives; Masimo Corporation; Refractec; Santa Clara Family Health Plan; Silverado Senior Living Center; Sutter Health's eICU; Trizetto Group; and Vocera Communications.

About ABL:

Celebrating its 25th anniversary year, the Adaptive Business Leaders (ABL) Organization's mission is to help health and technology leaders grow great companies. ABL does this through its eight monthly, industry-specific Round Tables held throughout California, and frequent Conferences, Workshops and Events. In their confidential Round Tables, ABL Members - who are CEOs, Presidents, COOs and Division General Managers of Health and Technology companies - openly seek from and share with each other candid advice, best practices and innovative approaches for capitalizing on market trends and opportunities, in order to assure they are well positioned for business and personal success.

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