

## News Release

For Immediate Release

### **Global Medical Technology Regulators and Industry Experts Meet in Toronto in May to discuss the industry's 'burning' issues**

**Toronto** (April 20, 2009) – Global medical technology regulators and industry regulatory personnel will meet at a Conference in Toronto this May to tackle issues in harmonizing regulatory practices in the global medical technology industry. This, the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Global Harmonization Task Force (GHTF), is being hosted by MEDEC - Canada's Medical Technology Companies and Health Canada under the theme, "Realizing the Value of Technology," from May 12 -14, 2009 at The Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto.

The Conference will address global 'hot' topics for the medical technology sector such as adverse event reporting; post-market vigilance and surveillance; premarket conformity assessment; unique device identifiers and combination products.

Over 200 delegates are expected to attend and will examine leading practices within the different medical device regulatory systems and recommend strategies and actions that industry can take to improve the regulatory environment.

Government and industry regulatory professionals, manufacturers of medical devices, regulatory consultants and device associations are invited to participate by registering at <https://secure.e-registernow.com/cgi-bin/mkpayment.cgi?state=667>.

Immediately following the main GHTF Seminar, an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Training Seminar on Harmonization is scheduled for May 14-16. The Seminar aims to impart a better understanding of the GHTF guidance documents and detailed GHTF recommendations on issues related to regulation, auditing, quality systems and surveillance.

Canada currently Chairs the GHTF, which was started in 1992 to achieve greater uniformity between national medical device regulatory systems, and, in turn enhance patient safety and access to safe, effective and clinically beneficial medical technologies around the world. The position of Chair is circulated amongst the GHTF's five founding members – the European Union, United States, Canada, Japan and Australia. Read more information at <http://www.ghtf.org>.

## **About MEDEC**

MEDEC is the national association representing the medical technology industry in Canada. Our 200 members are committed to providing safe and innovative medical device technologies that enhance quality patient care and advance patient outcomes. We are committed to ensuring that Canada has a strong and vibrant medical technology industry.

### **For additional information and interview requests, contact:**

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