



For Immediate Release:

March 4th, 2008 Des Moines, Iowa



**Iowa Health System Named Best User of Technology in Iowa
2008 Recipient of TIA Prometheus Award**

Iowa Health System, Iowa's first and largest integrated healthcare system has been awarded the 2008 Prometheus Award for Best User of Technology by the Technology Association of Iowa. Nominated from a broad field of candidates, Iowa Health System earned the Prometheus Award for their deployment of a next-generation fiber optic network connecting multiple healthcare facilities in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska.

In May 2005, IHS partnered with Fiberutilities Group, LLC, an Iowa-based professional technology and network management company, to make the vision of a ubiquitous, universally-connected medical system a reality. Completed in March of 2007, the Iowa Health System Medical Network is a multi-gigabit pure Ethernet network processing over 8 million transactions each day.

"Having a private, secure and reliable medical network is mission critical in order for IHS to continue to execute on our core mission of improving the lives and the communities we serve," said Bill Leaver, President and Chief Executive Officer for Iowa Health System. *"The network is capable of handling the bandwidth intensive applications often associated with advanced imaging and diagnostic services, including rural tele-medicine initiatives and remote tele-radiology."*

Since the network became operational, IHS has improved network throughput by 60% and driven overall network reliability and uptime to 99.998%. The time required to access and load critical physician programs has been cut by 98%, providing improved quality of care and shaving critical time from life-and-death decision making.

Due to the success and efficiencies of the network, Iowa Health System has announced plans to further expand and augment the fiber network. *"We're in the process of completing direct fiber connections to additional facilities, data centers and clinics as well as prominent medical research networks such as National Lambda Rail and Internet 2,"* said Jim Mormann, Chief Information Officer. *"This will ensure that Iowans have access to the latest emerging medical technologies while continuing to receive best-in-class health care services."*



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Initially formed in 1995, Iowa Health System includes 11 hospitals in Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fort Dodge, Sioux City, Waterloo and the Quad Cities, along with a group of 450 employed physicians and 125 clinics in 68 communities in Iowa, western Nebraska, and eastern Illinois. Iowa Health System is the first and largest integrated healthcare system in Iowa with revenues of more than \$1.8 billion. For more information visit, www.ihs.org

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