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## **University General Hospital Confirmed “Accredited” by Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)**

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HOUSTON, TX--(BUSINESS WIRE)--December 4, 2006 -- **University General Hospital, located near the Texas Medical Center area, was granted an accreditation decision of "Accredited for all Services Surveyed" by the Joint Commission Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) effective beginning December 1, 2006. The decision comes the same day that Houston-based University General Hospital Systems executed a \$1 Billion US Dollar agreement with Charlotte, NC-based Alliance Development Group to jointly develop up to another ten physician-owned acute-care hospital facilities across the country.**

"Houston's newest acute-care hospital is thriving and we are very pleased to be recognized by JCAHO as having met all of the criteria and requirements necessary to operate a full-service healthcare facility," says Jerel Humphrey, CEO of University General Hospital. "Our flagship facility features the latest advances in medical technology and five-star service associated with luxury hotels. We truly are taking healthcare to a new level, and we're unique in that our five-star treatment is now within reach of everyone."

The state-of-the-art facility was designed to suit the most exacting requirements of surgical procedures and medical treatments. As such, University General Hospital in Houston was the first facility in the United States to install and deploy the Emergin® Infusion Pump Gateway to help nurses be more productive and respond more efficiently to patients. Emergin's Orchestrator Client application automates and manages the staff assignment process for clinical point-of-care systems such as nurse call and IV infusion management. Caregivers at University General Hospital have the ability to receive automated critical patient status updates and alerts via personal mobile handsets, further resulting in increased productivity and overall quality of patient care.

"By giving the entire care team immediate access to accurate patient information, they have the flexibility to move about the facility with increased security," said Sharon McDonough, University General Hospital's vice president of operations and chief nursing officer. "We are confident that the technology we have built into our facility, along with the expertise our physicians possess and provide to our patients, will continue to set us apart in Houston's healthcare community."

"University General Hospital is focused on patient care in the specialty areas of bariatrics, orthopedics, pain management, cardiology, and male reproductive health. We have brought together the medical expertise of world-renowned physicians in each of these specialty care areas within our state-of-the-art facility," said Kamran Nezami, CEO and president of University General Hospital Systems. "JCAHO's granting of accreditation is a major step as our hospital system begins to expand," said Mr. Nezami.

The hospital system currently has plans to break ground on another physician-owned hospital in Houston's Chinatown area, with additional markets such as Dallas, Denver, Phoenix, and others to follow. "Our vision to provide the communities we serve with a higher level of healthcare and personal service is now a reality that

we will take across key markets in the U.S," said Mr. Nezami. Information about University General Hospital may be found online at [www.universitygeneralhospital.com](http://www.universitygeneralhospital.com).

#### **About University General Hospital Systems**

Headquartered in Houston, Texas, University General Hospital Systems is a national for-profit healthcare system that provides the highest quality and cost effective medical services available within a five-star environment. By partnering with leading vendors, world-renowned physicians, and top professionals in the healthcare industry, University General Hospital Systems will be placing additional five-star, physician-owned acute-care facilities in key markets across the United States. Further information about University General Hospital Systems may be found online at [www.universitygeneralhospital.com](http://www.universitygeneralhospital.com).

#### **About Emergin, Inc.**

Headquartered in Boca Raton, Florida, Emergin (a derivative of 'emergency' and 'innovation') is a leading provider of integration technology and services that has helped more than 5,000 enterprise organizations improve real-time communications, safety and quality. In healthcare, Emergin has provided messaging and connectivity solutions to more than 1,000 organizations, including five Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award recipients, 60 of 180 Magnet Hospitals and six of the Top-10 Heart Hospitals. Emergin also supports enterprise customers in aviation, manufacturing and public safety to improve responsiveness to critical events. Information about Emergin may be found online at [www.emergin.com](http://www.emergin.com).

#### **About Alliance Development Group**

Alliance Development Group is a national real estate services company that provides multiple commercial development services to a variety of markets, including healthcare, casual dining, banking and others. It offers both Build-to-Suit and Sale Leaseback programs to help companies pursue growth strategies without capital limitations and long-term debt challenges. Information about Alliance Development Group may be found online at [www.qoadg.com](http://www.qoadg.com).