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Frost & Sullivan Honors Dräger Medical for Excellence in Technology Innovation

Lübeck (Germany), March 14, 2006 – Dräger Medical has been awarded the 2005 Frost & Sullivan Award for Technology & Innovation Excellence in the European Markets for Wireless Patient Monitoring in Hospitals.

The company is recognized for its pioneering technology solution – Infinity[®] OneNet. “Dräger Medical has the unique distinction of being the only company in the market to integrate a hospital-wide wireless patient monitoring network,” says Frost & Sullivan Research Analyst Aarati Ajay in his statement describing the award bestowed on Dräger Medical. This ground-breaking technology effectively establishes a single unified wireless infrastructure throughout the hospital that supports both monitoring and hospital information systems.

Until the launch of this system, the patient monitoring network functioned as a standalone entity, discrete from the network of the hospital. This often sets up barriers to technology and workflow innovation made possible by the widespread deployment of wireless monitoring. However, Infinity OneNet has ushered in a paradigm shift.

“With the adoption of Dräger Medical’s innovative Infinity OneNet solution, hospitals can elevate their monitoring networks to true IT standards of performance and reliability,” continues Ajay.

Moreover, the compliance to the 802.3 Ethernet and Wi-Fi standards and the effective management of wireless bandwidth has helped this innovative system provide effective segmentation of the network based on hospital needs. This is particularly suited for the transfer of life-critical data such as patient alarms and vital signs information.

Tools embedded in the system architecture differentiate life-critical patient data from other data and prioritize it accordingly. The Infinity OneNet network thereby provides high availability fulfillment of service requirements. The use of an application traffic management system

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prioritizes data based on several parameters. At the same time, the system's unique attributes assuage end-user concerns about the shared infrastructure compromising system reliability.

Currently, hospitals are aware of the significant benefits to be gained from deploying a single, all-purpose network. For instance, the entire monitoring network at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) is based on Infinity OneNet. Additionally, a service implementation strategy allows the hospital to build the system to their needs and standards. It also recognizes the need to carefully design and implement the wireless network by using certified wireless professionals and state-of-the-art RF planning tools.

A unified system approach to networking within a hospital not only enhances productivity, but also offers significant return on investment. Because this system can be easily incorporated into the existing network infrastructure, hospitals can avoid additional implementation and service costs. Other benefits include increased mobility for patients as well as greater flexibility of hospital resources. Another advantage is that by making use of industry-standard hardware, tools for network management, and security, the hospital is not tied to one vendor.

"Dräger Medical has emerged as the only company that has leveraged the prospective benefits associated with the deployment of a common shared wireless network infrastructure within the hospital setting," concludes Ajay. "With the system delivering cost-effectiveness, high productivity and flexibility, the Infinity OneNet networking solution is positioned to become as industry standard and has the potential to yield considerable advantages."

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Frost & Sullivan, global growth consulting company, has been partnering with clients to support the development of innovative strategies for more than 40 years. The company's industry expertise integrates growth consulting, growth partnership services, and corporate management training to identify and develop opportunities. Frost & Sullivan serves an extensive clientele that includes Global 1000 companies, emerging companies, and the investment community by providing comprehensive industry coverage that reflects a unique global perspective and combines ongoing analysis of markets, technologies, econometrics, and demographics. For more information, visit www.frost.com

About Dräger Medical:

Dräger Medical AG & Co. KG is one of the world's leading manufacturers of medical equipment, the largest division of Drägerwerk AG (history dates back to 1889) and a 65:35 joint venture company between Drägerwerk AG and Siemens AG. The global Company offers products, services and integrated CareArea™ Solutions throughout the patient care process - Emergency Care, Perioperative Care, Critical Care, Perinatal Care and Home Care. With headquarters in Lübeck, Germany, Dräger Medical employs nearly 6,000 people worldwide. Additional information is available on the Company's website www.draeger-medical.com

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