

## For Immediate Release

### FDA Launches New Effort to Improve Infusion Pump Safety

**Stoughton, MA – April 30, 2010** –The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) indicates external infusion pumps have initiated 56,000 FDA adverse event reports linked to more than 500 deaths and 87 product recalls from 2005 through 2009. In light of these statistics they recently announced a new plan to improve the safety of IV infusion pumps. Medical Specialties Distributors, LLC (MSD), the leading supplier of healthcare products and biomedical equipment rentals and services to the home infusion market, welcomes the FDA's new effort to further ensure that all infusion pumps currently in use and coming in to the market are designed to improve safety and to eliminate the possibility for user error.

As part of the FDA 510K process, manufacturers who desire to build medical products for the US market are required to test their products extensively to prove their devices are safe to be used on patients. Going forward, Jeffrey Shuren, MD, Director of the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health, said "instead of responding to problems one by one, manufacturer by manufacturer, [FDA is] taking comprehensive steps to prevent problems by fostering the development of safer and more effective infusion pumps industry wide."

MSD's President and CEO, Jim Beck, explains "Several years ago MSD enhanced its quality assurance program beyond that of most biomedical services providers. By achieving ISO 9001 & 13485 certification in 2000 and 2003 respectively, MSD's customer service, distribution process and biomedical services meet ISO's stringent standards and QA requirements."

In addition to ISO certification, MSD offers OneTrack Equipment Management Solution, the most complete asset management software available today. OneTrack currently manages over 175,000 medical devices. "Customers utilizing this system can easily track all their infusion pumps to the end user in accordance with the FDA Safe Medical Device Act tracking/documentation requirements and all equipment management accreditation regulations," says Beck.

"Over the years," Beck adds, "MSD's factory-trained biomedical engineering technicians have been providing high-quality repairs and preventive maintenance for most brands of infusion pumps in both the acute and extended care markets."

MSD continues to support customers and vendor-partners with significant investments in technology helping to ensure the common goal of improving healthcare.

**ABOUT MEDICAL SPECIALTIES DISTRIBUTORS, LLC (MSD):** MSD is a primary distributor of med surg product and biomedical equipment into the alternate-site marketplace. MSD's portfolio of services includes Outpatient Infusion Systems, an accredited ambulatory pump program serving the oncology marketplace throughout the U.S. Additional services offered by MSD include formulary development, online ordering, equipment management and tracking, and patient direct delivery programs. MSD is an authorized distributor for most of the healthcare industry's leading group purchasing organizations and is also ISO 9001:2000 & ISO 13485:2003 Certified. To learn about MSD visit [www.msdonline.com](http://www.msdonline.com).

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