

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Dennis Kitterman
(480) 477-1000 ext. 109
dkitterman@ncpdp.org
www.ncpdp.org

PASSING THE GAVEL CEREMONY MARKS NCPDP LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

*SXC Health Solutions, Inc. Senior V.P. Assumes Role as NCPDP
Chair*

Scottsdale, AZ – The National Council for Prescription Drug Programs, Inc. (NCPDP) introduced a new Chair of the standards development organization at the Annual Conference held May 3-8, 2008 in Scottsdale, Arizona. **Dan Hardin**, R.Ph., MBA, Senior Vice President from SXC Health Solutions, Inc. was introduced to conference attendees at the Passing of the Gavel Ceremony.

Hardin, a nine-year member of NCPDP, replaced **Bob Beckley**, Senior Vice President, Alliances and Product Strategy from SureScripts.

Hardin has been a member of several committees and currently served as Chair of the NCPDP Annual Conference Committee. He also previously served as Chair for the Educational Program Committee and Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. He is a long-time Co-Chair of Work Group 7 Manufacturer Rebates.

Hardin spoke about the impact of NCPDP on the industry. "Think of the prescription claims adjudication process...the delivery system of data from physician to pharmacy to payer and appropriate funds transmitted to complete the process in real time," Hardin said. "Due to NCPDP Standards, that entire process has gone from weeks or months to just under seven seconds. Just under seven seconds. That's amazing. Considering billions of transactions per year, the savings to the industry is staggering if you put it all in perspective. It's a substantial impact to the industry and to your company."

During the Passing the Gavel Ceremony, Beckley looked back at his time as the NCPDP Chair.

"If there is one word that sums up this past year's Board, it would be, 'WHY'? This board did not believe in the status quo. We asked why are we doing something this way? Why does it have to be that way? And answers like, we have always done it that way just made us ask more questions," Beckley said. "With all the whys came some great new ideas and changes."

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Beckley's year as NCPDP Chair was productive and visionary in terms of strategic scope. The organization held a number of focus group meetings to examine important issues in the industry. The Council also spearheaded the first ever SDO Summit, a meeting of stakeholder organizations involved in the development of healthcare standards with representatives from organizations such as ASTM, DISA, HIMSS, HITSP, HL7, WEDI and X12N.

NCPDP President, **Lee Ann Stember** addressed the continued success that NCPDP has had in recent years. "When many associations in healthcare have been struggling, the Council has been in growth mode in recent years. The leadership and energy and vision that both Bob and Dan provide is paramount to our continued success."

The Board of Trustees oversees all Council activities and has final authority over all Council industry standardization development activities and the application of those standards for candidacy as American National Standards. The Board sets the strategic direction of the organization and is charged with the fiduciary responsibilities associated with operating the Council. The Board also appoints various standing and ad-hoc committees such as Executive Committee and the Standardization Committee.

About NCPDP

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization with over 1500 members representing virtually every sector of the pharmacy services industry. Our diverse membership provides leadership and healthcare business solutions through education and standards, created using the consensus building process. NCPDP has been named in federal legislation, including HIPAA and the MMA. NCPDP members have created standards such as the Telecommunication Standard and Batch Standard, the SCRIPT Standard for e-Prescribing, the Manufacturers Rebate Standard and more to improve communication within the pharmacy industry. Our data services include dataQ, the trusted source for intelligent pharmacy data and HCidea, the prescriber identity solution. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Data Services, Educational Programs and Work Group meetings, go online at www.ncpdp.org or call (480) 477-1000.

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