



Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council

HLAC NAMES KATHY TINKER AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Marketing executive has served as HLAC's sales director the last 18 months;
number of accredited laundries hits 53 mark*

FAIRWAY, KS, Oct. 14, 2008— The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) has named Kathy Tinker as its executive director, effective immediately. Tinker has served the council as its sales director for the past 18 months.

“We are thrilled to announce Kathy Tinker as our executive director,” says HLAC Chair Judy Reino. “The dedication and professionalism she has shown as sales director sold us on her ability to lead the organization. I believe her ability to deliver results will take HLAC to the next level of development.”

In addition to handling sales for HLAC, Tinker has also been instrumental in strengthening and building HLAC's marketing program to help laundries prepare for inspection and effectively market themselves after receiving accreditation. Tinker brings 15 years of experience to the position. Prior to serving as sales director, Tinker worked for McIntyre Group and Ecolab, Inc. She has a bachelor of arts in business and marketing from the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minn.

As Tinker takes the helm of HLAC, the organization has announced the accreditation of its 53rd healthcare laundry. Another 20 laundries are in the process of preparing for the inspection that will qualify them for accreditation.

HLAC's mission is to publish high standards for laundering healthcare textiles, and to provide an inspection and accreditation process that recognizes those laundries that meet these high standards. The decision to become accredited is completely voluntary.

The primary benefit of accreditation is that an independent third party has inspected your facility and found that it meets or exceeds the highest standards for processing healthcare textiles. A laundry cannot inspect and accredit itself and its customers generally do not have the time or expertise to conduct inspections.

The following associations support the Council and are represented on the HLAC Board of Directors.

- Association for Linen Management (ALM)
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)
- American Reusable Textile Association (ARTA)
- American Society for Healthcare Environmental Services (ASHES)
- International Association for Healthcare Textile Management (IAHTM)
- Textile Rental Services Association (TRSA)

The following government agencies have advised the Council or currently are represented on the HLAC Board of Directors.

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Department of Veteran's Affairs
- U.S. Army Medical Command

For more information on HLAC and the benefits of accreditation, visit www.hlacnet.org or email Tinker at kathytinker@sbcglobal.net.

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