



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sodexo Signs Up 12 Laundries for Accreditation by HLAC

FAIRWAY, KS, 2/13/08 — The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) is pleased to announce that Sodexo Laundry Services has signed up 12 of its plants for accreditation. Ten Sodexo laundries are signed up for inspection and two have already received 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. To date, more than 70 laundries have signed up for accreditation. Thirty-five have received accreditation.

Sodexo was the first national company to have one of its laundry operations inspected and accredited in 2006 — Sodexo Collinwood Yards in Cleveland — followed by the accreditation of Midwest Laundry in Cincinnati, February 2007. Sodexo plans to have 10 additional laundries inspected for accreditation by the end of 2008.

“Sodexo adheres to the highest standards for safety and cleanliness in our laundries,” said Emeka Okeani, president of Sodexo Laundry Services. “Accreditation provides our customers, and the communities in which we operate, independent validation that Sodexo adheres to the highest standards for safety and cleanliness.”

For more than 60 years Sodexo has provided textile processing services for healthcare facilities that work to improve quality, service, and control costs.

Why Accreditation?

The primary benefit of accreditation is that an independent third party has inspected the laundry 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 HLAC accreditation process was developed with several industry groups, including:

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

For more information on HLAC and the benefits of accreditation, check the HLAC website at www.hlacnet.org. For more information about Sodexo, visit www.sodexhousa.com/laundry.