



Tri-anim

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bound Tree Medical and Tri-anim Health Services Merge to Better Serve Growing EMS, Acute Care and Surgical Markets

Combined companies to provide national sales representation, an enhanced product offering and customized tools & services

Dublin, OH & Sylmar, CA – June 5, 2008 – Bound Tree Medical, a leading supplier of emergency medical equipment and supplies, and Tri-anim Health Services, the largest specialty distributor of acute care, surgical and EMS products, announced today the signing of a merger agreement to create an industry-leading specialty healthcare distribution company. The merger is motivated by the complementary nature of the two specialty healthcare businesses and the opportunity to better serve the EMS, acute care and surgical markets.

The two companies will continue to operate under their existing names with Bound Tree focusing on serving EMS providers and Tri-anim serving multiple specialties within hospitals. Combined, the companies will offer more than 100,000 items to healthcare providers through 17 distributions centers strategically located throughout the United States.

With a team of knowledgeable sales and service people and products from leading-edge manufacturers, the new company can better leverage their knowledge and experience to satisfy a wide array of customer needs. Linden Joseph, President of Bound Tree, will continue in his role and will lead the integration of EMS businesses.

“This is a great opportunity for the combined companies to provide even more products and services to customers that are serving patients in life-threatening situations on a daily basis,” said Joseph. “We take pride in assisting EMS and affiliated healthcare providers with critical supplies, equipment and training that make their jobs easier and more effective,” he added.

“The ability to provide and introduce life sustaining technologies to EMS customers is what we originally envisioned in creating our EMS platform,” said Bob Byers, President and CEO of Tri-anim. “Now more than ever, our combined EMS customers expect us to be the leaders in presenting them with new and innovative products, help them to make the best decisions possible and provide the most positive outcomes for their patients. Joining forces with Bound Tree will enable us to provide our EMS customers with an even broader range of products and higher level of support. We will integrate the best practices of both companies adding tremendous value to the EMS market”

Joseph concluded, "Both companies have been developing similar organizational structures, sales models and tools to help our customers better serve their patients. As a result, many synergies and new opportunities have already been identified. The combined companies will continue to provide the benefits of an established national supplier with superior customer service from local account managers.”

About the Transaction

Water Street Healthcare Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm focused exclusively on the health care industry, is supporting the multi-million dollar deal with operating expertise and an equity investment to further extend the combined entity's market-leadership position. Noting that Water Street's team is comprised of leaders who have managed some of the biggest health care distribution companies in the world, Chris Sweeney, the firm's lead principal on the proprietary deal, stated: “Our expertise and ideas helped bring together two market leaders that will deliver much greater value together than they would separately. This is a transformational combination that addresses a rising need in the health care industry for a knowledgeable national supplier. We see tremendous opportunity to further expand into complementary health care markets that will benefit from a specialized distributor with a national network.”

About Bound Tree Medical

Bound Tree Medical is a specialty distributor of medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and supplies to the pre-hospital marketplace. The company markets its products through a national sales force to EMS providers, fire departments, hospitals, colleges and universities throughout the United States and Europe. The company employs approximately 240 people and has facilities in New Hampshire, Ohio, Tennessee, South

Carolina, Wisconsin, Arizona, California and the United Kingdom. To learn more, visit www.boundtree.com.

About Tri-anim

For more than 30 years, Tri-anim has met the needs and exceeded the expectations of providers throughout the healthcare continuum, including hospitals, emergency medical services (EMS), long-term care facilities, surgery centers and nursing homes. All in-stock orders received - until 5 pm - are shipped the same day from one of 13 distribution centers nationwide. Tri-anim is an industry leader providing e-commerce solutions enabling customers a faster and more efficient procurement method for purchasing medical products. The e-Quick® System, a proprietary patent-pending technology, allows customers to place a five-line order in less than 45 seconds. For more information, go to www.Tri-anim.com.

About Water Street Healthcare Partners

Water Street Healthcare Partners is a Chicago-based private equity firm focused exclusively on health care. One of the most active investors in health care today, Water Street has a strong track record of building market-leadership companies across the health care industry. The firm has particular expertise in corporate divestitures from the world's leading health care companies, including Johnson & Johnson, Medtronic, Smith & Nephew and Stryker Corporation. Water Street's team is comprised of highly experienced industry executives and private equity professionals who have worked together for more than 10 years and whose investments include: Access MediQuip, Alpine Biomed, Facet Technologies, Lakewood Pathology Associates, Physiotherapy Associates and Precision Dynamics Corporation. For more information about Water Street, visit www.wshp.com.

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