



Eastern Carolina Pathology Aligns With American Pathology Partners

Wilson, NC (March 30, 2009) -- Eastern Carolina Pathology, an anatomic pathology laboratory serving the Eastern North Carolina region including Wilson Medical Center, has aligned with American Pathology Partners (APP), a national pathology services company based in Nashville, TN.

Dr. James Cash, president and founder of ECP, announced the strategic alliance with APP effective March 12, 2009. The two companies share a common commitment to excellence in diagnostic laboratory testing and personalized service to clients.

"Eastern Carolina Pathology (ECP) has always been committed to providing the highest quality services to our hospitals, physicians and their patients," says Dr. Cash. "We are proud to have served our region since 1988, and have shared and delivered anatomic pathology services to over 300 physicians and allied health professionals, including Wilson Medical Center with great pride and precision."

According to Dr. Cash, the evolution of Eastern Carolina Pathology, and the growth the practice has enjoyed over the last 21 years, has come about for three main reasons.

"Our growth has been based on our accuracy, reliability, and rapid turnaround time," says Dr. Cash. "We have always said that as a group, we will not be 'out serviced' by anyone. Our alliance with APP will allow us access to a higher level of information technology so that our results for lab tests and biopsies can be returned to physicians even faster. We never forget that for each test result there is an anxious patient waiting to hear an answer."

Dr. Cash says that Eastern Carolina Pathology has enjoyed a reputation of trust in the region. This is because of the group of four pathologists, as well as a staff of dedicated laboratory technicians and professionals, share strong core values with the primary care physicians and specialists who serve Eastern North Carolina. He notes that aligning with APP "will enhance our ability to serve an even broader spectrum of the region, including new molecular tests, which are being used to develop state of the art treatment plans for patients. Providing the highest quality medical care while allowing the patients of our physician clients to stay in their own communities is our goal," says Dr. Cash.

Dr. Cash will serve as lab president and continue to direct its day-to-day clinical supervision.

Bob Yeager, APP's Chief Executive Officer, says, "We are delighted to have such a highly respected laboratory as our newest partner, because this partnership furthers our strategy of building a national network of leading pathologists and pathology laboratories, particularly those

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already associated with hospitals serving their communities. We think that combination holds great promise for improving the delivery of exceptional diagnostic care.”

About Eastern Carolina Pathology:

Eastern Carolina Pathology is a leading provider of anatomic pathology in Eastern North Carolina. The company operates a state-of-the-art, central laboratory in Wilson, NC, as well as services to Wilson Medical Center, Halifax Regional Medical Center in Roanoke Rapids, and Heritage Hospital in Tarboro. A core team of four highly accomplished board-certified pathologists and a staff of laboratory professionals provide medical expertise allowing for high quality diagnosis and personalized consultation services.

About American Pathology Partners:

APP is a national, private diagnostic testing services provider based in Nashville, Tennessee. The company was formed in early 2008 by healthcare industry veterans Marty Rash and Bob Yeager with pathology industry specialists Robert Mignatti, Thanasis Papaioanu and Ed Dooling, and is backed by New Enterprise Associates, a leading venture capital firm. The company’s flagship laboratory, UniPath, is located in Denver, Colorado and serves the greater Rocky Mountain region, including 11 area hospitals.

APP operates anatomic pathology laboratories in partnership with pathologists and hospitals to improve the quality of diagnostic testing, technology capabilities and services that patients and doctors need to make better healthcare decisions. The company offers a broad array of services to its partner labs, including: management support, access to capital, strategic planning, sales and marketing, information technology, operational enhancements, managed care contracting, and purchasing.

About New Enterprise Associates:

New Enterprise Associates, Inc. (NEA) is a leading global venture capital firm with more than \$8.5 billion in committed capital. For over 30 years, NEA has helped entrepreneurs build strong businesses for the long term, funding more than 650 companies in the technology and healthcare sectors. NEA, which has ranked consistently among the top firms in portfolio IPOs every year, has backed more than 160 companies that have gone public, and has invested in more than 240 companies that have been successfully merged or acquired.

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