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**Nihon Kohden America honored by Premier healthcare alliance for exceptional supplier performance**

Irvine, CA, June 12, 2008 – Nihon Kohden America today announced that is a winner of the third annual Pinnacle Award, presented by the Premier healthcare alliance's Purchasing Partners unit.

Nihon Kohden is one of 15 of more than 800 Premier contracted suppliers to receive the award, which recognizes suppliers whose performance meets or exceeds the expectations of Premier and its members as they carry out their missions of meeting the healthcare needs of communities they serve.

"Nihon Kohden America is proud to accept this prestigious award from Premier," states Kathy Hart, Director Neurology Division, NKA. "This confirms Nihon Kohden's position as a market leader in neurodiagnostics and sleep monitoring. Nihon Kohden is committed to product innovation and is dedicated to our corporate partnerships."

Jim Fagan, Executive Corporate Account Manager accepted the award at the 2008 Premier Annual Breakthroughs Conference & Exhibition in Nashville, Tenn. The award ceremony was held on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry and featured a special presentation from country music legend Naomi Judd.

Based on performance data collected during the year and shared with contracted suppliers through Premier's supplier quality and business line review process, the annual awards are designed to align contracted supplier performance to meet or exceed Premier's and its members' expectations on a consistent basis.

"Premier's Pinnacle Award honors top performing suppliers that understand the importance of collaboration and striving for performance excellence," said Premier Purchasing Partners President Mike Alkire. "We're happy to honor these companies as we work together to improve healthcare in our communities."

Pinnacle Award objectives are to support and enhance relationships with contracted suppliers; improve communication; support attainment of mutual goals; drive contract utilization; improve both members' and suppliers' financial performance; and to provide unsurpassed clinical and financial value for members.

For more information, please visit: [www.premierinc.com/about/news/awards/index.jsp](http://www.premierinc.com/about/news/awards/index.jsp).

**About Premier Inc., 2006 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recipient**

Serving more than 2,000 U.S. hospitals and 50,000 other healthcare sites, the Premier healthcare alliance and its members are transforming healthcare together. Owned by not-for-profit hospitals, Premier operates one of the leading healthcare purchasing networks and the nation's most comprehensive repository of hospital clinical and financial information. A subsidiary operates one of the nation's largest policy-holder owned, hospital professional liability risk-retention groups. A world leader in helping healthcare providers deliver dramatic improvements in care, Premier is working with the United Kingdom's National Health Service North West and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to improve hospital performance. Headquartered in San Diego, Premier has offices in Charlotte, N.C., Philadelphia and Washington. For more information, visit [www.premierinc.com](http://www.premierinc.com).

### **About Nihon Kohden, Neurology Division**

Nihon Kohden is Japan's leading manufacturer, developer and distributor of medical electronic equipment with subsidiaries in North America, Europe and Asia and distribution in over 100 countries. For more than 50 years, healthcare providers worldwide have relied on the quality and reliability of Nihon Kohden's comprehensive and innovative line of neuro-diagnostic and -monitoring instrumentation to aid in the diagnosis, information and treatment of their patients. The breadth of our Neurology product portfolio includes epilepsy monitoring, EEG, ambulatory recording, Polysomnography, Intra-operative and ICU monitoring, EMG, nerve conduction and evoked potentials. When performance counts, you can rely on Nihon Kohden to assist you in delivering the highest quality patient care as efficiently as possible. More information about Nihon Kohden America can be found at [www.nkusa.com](http://www.nkusa.com).