![availity® Patients. Not paperwork.]

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Availity Receives 2004 eHealthcare Leadership Awards
Recognized for Best Interactive Site and Best Overall Internet Site

JACKSONVILLE, FL – Availity, L.L.C. was recognized as the Gold winner for Best Interactive Site and the Gold winner for Best Overall Internet Site, both in the Business/Process Improvement category, at the fifth annual eHealthcare Leadership Awards ceremony. The awards were presented in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 9 during a health care Internet conference. The eHealthcare Leadership Awards program was developed and first presented in 2000 by *eHealthcare Strategy & Trends,* a leading Internet resource published by Health Care Communications.

More than 1,200 entries were received from firms representing 17 industry classifications, from hospitals and health systems to pharmaceutical firms and online health companies. One hundred four judges familiar with health care and the Internet evaluated the web sites and awarded prizes in 10 categories. The judges looked at how sites compared with others in their organization's classification and reviewed sites based on a proprietary multi-point standard of Internet excellence. The Best Overall Internet Site category had to pass muster on as many as 56 factors, including delivery of strong health content, interactivity, medical care support, integration with the organization's operations, as well as strength of web design and ease of navigation.

"In some cases, only a point or two made the difference in winning an award," says Mark Gothberg, eHealthcare Leadership Awards Chairman. "Competition continues to be intense in the large hospital, health care system, and managed care classifications."

The Availity Gateway securely processes transactions for multiple health plans, including inquiries for patient eligibility and benefits, referrals, authorizations, claim submissions, and claim status inquiries – all at no cost to physicians and other health care professionals. These transactions are supported online in real-time and in batch via electronic data interchange (EDI). Availity currently supports more than 13,000 customer sites, comprised of physician offices, hospitals, and third party administrators.

"We are truly honored to have achieved eHealthcare Leadership Awards in 2003 and 2004," states Julie Klapstein, CEO of Availity. "By soliciting feedback from our customers, we are continuously improving the Availity solution, and hopefully that was evident to the judges."

About Availity – Patients. Not paperwork.®
Availity optimizes the flow of information between health care providers, health plans, and other health care stakeholders through a secure Internet-based exchange. The Availity® Gateway supports both real-time web and batch electronic data interchange (EDI) transactions, is committed to complying with HIPAA regulations, and has proven to be fast and efficient. Availity health plan transactions are free to providers. Value-added services include credentialing data maintenance, also free to providers, and online prescription refill authorizations. Availity is the recipient of the 2004 ITFlorida Excellence in IT Leadership for NE Florida Award, 2003 and 2004 eHealthcare Leadership Awards, the 2003 E-Fusion Award, the 2003 TETHIE Award, and the 2003 AstraZeneca-NMHCC Partnership Award. For more information, including an online demonstration of the Availity Gateway, visit www.availity.com or call 1.800.AVAILITY (282.4548).