



**Health Care
Supplies
Association**

NEWS RELEASE

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HEALTHCARE SUPPLIERS REWRITE THE SCRIPT

Hundreds of health care supplies staff from around the country will gather in Stratford-upon-Avon next month to debate the key issues affecting the provision and performance of health care purchasing and supply services.

The 36th Annual Conference and Exhibition of the Health Care Supplies Association (HCSA) takes place from 2-4 November, offering purchasing and supply professionals involved in the support of health care a unique opportunity to explore new approaches and alternative ways of working. The event is being organised by public procurement specialists BiP Solutions.

At a time of increasing change throughout healthcare procurement the timing of the HCSA conference could not be more appropriate.

Representing over 700 members, the HCSA promotes the role and importance of supplies staff in cost-efficient supply chain management at all levels.

John Smith, Executive Director of the HCSA, said he was looking forward to welcoming delegates and to attending what promises to be a stimulating event: "Once again we have created a topical programme designed specifically for health care purchasing and supply professionals. Every year the high quality debate on key issues attracts a capacity audience and this year will be no exception."

The theme of this year's conference is 'Rewriting the Script' and delegates will be invited to address a number of key issues affecting the profession, including strategic supply management, innovation, logistics and financial management.

Keynote speakers include Christine Harland, HCSA President and Director at the Centre for Research in Strategic Purchasing and Supply, University of Bath, Duncan Eaton, Former Chief Executive of NHS Purchasing and Supply and Barry Mellor, Chief Executive of NHS Logistics Authority.

Those interested in registering for the event can do so at:
<http://www.bipcontracts.com/events/healthcare-2006/>

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Notes for editors:

About the HCSA:

- The HCSA is a dynamic organisation dedicated to promoting the role and importance of supplies staff in cost-efficient supply chain management
- It represents more than 700 members across the country
- Membership is made up of persons engaged in the health care sector who have a level of management experience in purchasing and supply and/or a relevant qualification
- The Association is entirely self-financed through a combination of members' subscriptions, income from conferences, publications, seminars and other training events

| About BiP Solutions Ltd:

- Established 22 years, 150 staff based in Glasgow
- Europe's leading provider of public sector contracts information
- Publisher of *Government Opportunities* magazine
- Service provider of the Supply2.gov.uk lower-value contracts portal
- Also provides procurement consultancy, training and events

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