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## **News Release**

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July 12, 2007

### **CPH is one of America's "Most Wired" Hospitals**

Canton-Potsdam Hospital has been named one of the "Most Wired" small, rural hospitals in the nation as a result of the The 2007 Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking Study released today in the July issue of Hospitals & Health Networks (H&HN) Magazine. The 100 Most Wired Hospitals and Health Systems were honored at the annual Health Forum and American Hospital Leadership Summit in San Diego, California.

*H&HN's Most Wired Magazine* is a quarterly magazine that uses case studies to identify how actual information technology practices help solve strategic problems. It is the first magazine devoted to providing actual data and real-world strategic solutions. It mines the exclusive database of the annual Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking study to identify the best practices in the industry.

"Our commitment and financial investment in Information Technology enhances the level of medical care and overall experience for our patients and their families," remarked Corey Zeigler, Chief Information Officer. "To receive national recognition for our leadership in this area is very gratifying. Canton-Potsdam Hospital's support of information technology helps deliver exceptional patient care and contributes to the hospital's overall operating efficiency. This efficiency benefits our patients by helping to contain costs."

The annual Hospitals & Health Networks' Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking study asks hospitals to report on their use of information technology in five key areas: business process, customer service, safety and quality, workforce and public health and safety.

The survey measures customer service measurements in the areas of improving efficiency of administrative services to patients such as pre-registration, assisting patients to research and track their own conditions and providing the general public with health information and resources to improve their health.

Information technology is not only changing how patients are administered in the hospital, but it is affecting the entire healthcare experience. Canton-Potsdam Hospital hosts the data base for several medical facilities, including: Carthage Area Hospital, E. J. Noble Hospital in Gouverneur, Clifton-Fine Hospital in Star Lake and River Hospital in Alexandria Bay. Physicians are also benefiting from CPH's tech savvy approach. A physician's portal on the hospital web site allows doctors to show the patient the results of diagnostic tests, complete with photos, in their own office or anywhere with internet access. This level of technical capability helps CPH recruit some of the best medical talent in the country.

As IT in hospitals continues to become more prevalent electronic features such as online health classes, scheduling, pre-registering for services, checking for test results, and virtual doctor visits are beginning to be offered. Alden Solovy, executive editor of *Hospitals and Health Networks* refers to this phenomenon as the "new house-call."

The Canton-Potsdam Hospital is a not-for-profit, general, acute-care community hospital in Potsdam, New York. The hospital's mission is to provide healthcare to the people of St. Lawrence County and areas beyond for specialty service.

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