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**Sisters of Mercy Health Systems/St. John's Mercy Health Care
Wins Process Innovation Award**

*Innovative Implementation of BPM Solution from DST Technologies Results in
Award-Winning Performance Improvements*

KANSAS CITY, MO. (December 14, 2004) – Sisters of Mercy Health System/St. John's Mercy Health Care was recently recognized with a "Process Innovation Award" from Kinetic Information LLC, a strategic business consulting firm for buyers and sellers of information technology. The annual award honors superior technology applications that contribute to business effectiveness. The hospital was recognized for several measurable business efficiency improvements resulting from the implementation of AWD® (Automated Work Distributor™), a market leading comprehensive business process management (BPM) solution from DST Technologies, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of DST Systems, Inc. [NYSE:DST].

"We are honored to be recognized as an innovator in healthcare revenue management based on our implementation of AWD," said Sheri Beekman, vice president of Patient Financial Services, Sisters of Mercy Health System. "As a result of the implementation, we have already shortened our medical records backlog by 36 percent and sped outpatient coding from three to five days down to 24 hours. In terms of cost efficiencies, AWD has helped us save more than \$1 million and improved cash receivables by nearly \$4 million. The solution provides us with a comprehensive business process framework that goes beyond basic imaging and workflow. AWD also leverages our existing technology infrastructure and serves as a bridge to connect the various application systems throughout our health system. The combination of the efficiencies gained from this implementation with the receipt of this award further validates our initial decision to implement AWD."

“Sisters of Mercy Health System/St. John’s Mercy Health Care is a progressive organization that understands how technology can be applied to deliver the best healthcare services to its patients,” said Steve Weissman, president of Kinetic Information LLC. “Their use of AWD is a great example of how a BPM solution can streamline revenue cycle management, which represents one of the healthcare industry’s biggest challenges. Other health systems would do well to unite their existing systems in the same way.”

AWD is a comprehensive business process management solution that offers extended enterprise support, streamlines processes, integrates application systems and provides real-time business intelligence for an array of vertical markets such as financial services and healthcare. This unified BPM solution allows organizations to become more efficient, more accountable and more cost effective. AWD offers companies rapid payback and low-risk, non-invasive technology to create dynamic productivity improvements using existing applications.

“We commend Sisters of Mercy Health System/St. John’s Mercy Health for embracing a solution to automate workflow related specifically to medical records and revenue cycle management,” said Tracy Shelby, systems officer, DST Technologies. “This award is a testament to their innovative spirit, and we are proud to continue our relationship in order to help them achieve further operational improvements through BPM.”

About DST Systems, Inc.

DST Systems, Inc. provides sophisticated information processing and computer software services and products that help clients improve productivity, increase efficiencies, and provide higher levels of customer service. DST Systems is organized domestically and internationally into three operating segments: Financial Services, Customer Management, and Output Solutions. DST Systems operates one of the most advanced data centers in the world, which provides information-processing services to support the products within each operating segment. These products are further enhanced through the integration of DST Systems’ advanced technology and e-commerce solutions. For more information on DST Systems, Inc, visit www.dstsystems.com.

About DST Technologies, Inc.

DST Technologies, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of DST Systems, Inc, is a leading pure-play provider of business process management (BPM) solutions which help organizations optimize and execute their business processes. Leveraging its expertise and proven tools, DST automates the necessary business rules and workflow steps to improve overall business and operational efficiencies. DST Technologies is a provider of sophisticated information technology solutions that help clients improve productivity, increase efficiency and deliver higher levels of customer service. Backed by the resources of its corporate parent, DST provides BPM solutions to a variety of vertical markets, including financial services and healthcare. The company is unique among pure-play BPM providers with its significant domain expertise in healthcare. For more information about AWD, visit www.dstawd.com.

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