

**Fortune Ranks National Medical Health Card Systems #6 on America's 100 Fastest Growing Companies; NMHC Achieves High Ranking for the Second Consecutive Year**

PORT WASHINGTON, N.Y.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 30, 2004--In its 16th annual list of America's Fastest Growing Companies, FORTUNE has announced that National Medical Health Card Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: NMHC), a national independent pharmacy benefits manager (PBM), earned a #6 ranking for 2004, a significant increase from its #27 ranking in 2003. This impressive standing - the only PBM in the top tier and one of just two PBMs in the entire listing - is a strong indication of the level of market acceptance for NMHC's ground-breaking Total Healthcare Solution approach.

"This highly coveted placement not only documents the fast-track growth of NMHC, but also reflects our well-executed strategy to drive down costs for our clients, answer demands for benefit flexibility, and deliver member satisfaction," says James F. Smith, NMHC president and CEO. "These were key factors in helping the company to achieve this prestigious designation in FORTUNE."

Citing NMHC's three major acquisitions since 2002, FORTUNE points to the PBM's three-year annual earnings-per-share growth of 85 percent and its three-year annual total return of 107 percent. In her introduction to the list, writer Ellen Florian says, "Robust expansion of the kind that lands a company on a list like this one is rare."

Smith adds, "As a Total Healthcare Solutions provider, NMHC has been able to innovate and rise above the competition, with a strong commitment to service and a historical transparency practice with respect to client contracting. NMHC's team of qualified industry professionals complements the strength of its varied offerings and is further indication of its growth potential."

The complete list and state-by-state database of the companies, appears in the September 6 issue of FORTUNE, available on newsstands August 30th and at [www.fortune.com](http://www.fortune.com).

To compile the 2004 list of Americas' Fastest Growing Companies, FORTUNE asked Zacks Investment Research to find U.S. companies with a minimum market cap of \$50 million, at least \$50 million in revenues over the past four quarters, and at least 20 percent annual growth in sales and earnings over the past three years. FORTUNE then factored in total stock market return to come up with the final list.

About NMHC

National Medical Health Card Systems, Inc. (NMHC) operates NMHC Rx (pharmacy benefits manager or PBM), Integrail (health information solutions), NMHC Mail (home delivery pharmacy), and Ascend (specialty pharmacy solutions), providing services to corporations, unions, health maintenance organizations, third-party administrators, and local governments. Through its clinical programs, value-added offerings, and advanced information systems, NMHC provides quality, cost effective management of pharmacy benefit programs. For more information, call 1.800.251.3883 or visit [www.nmhc.com](http://www.nmhc.com).

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements which involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties or other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. When used herein, the words "may", "could", "estimate", "believes", "anticipates", "thinks", "intends", "will be", "expects", "plans" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to risks relating to demand, pricing, government regulation, acquisitions and affiliations, the market for PBM services, competition and other factors, readers are urged to carefully review and consider various disclosures made by NMHC in the Company's Annual Report

on Form 10-K, as amended, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, and other Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this press release regarding National Medical Health Card Systems' business which are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report or Form 10-K for the most recently ended fiscal year.

CONTACT: NMHC Investor Relations Contacts:  
Lippert/Heilshorn & Associates  
David Waldman/John Heilshorn  
dwaldman@lhai.com  
or  
Media Contact:  
CPRi Communications for NMHC  
Jessica Wolfe, 201-641-1911 x51  
jwolfe@cpronline.com

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