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**Extensive Conference Program to Highlight MEDI 2008 for Medical Device Industry**

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***Sessions to Focus on Research/Scientific, Clinical Applications, Manufacturing and Commercialization***

HARTFORD, Conn., March 31, 2008 -- **MEDI 2008**, the most comprehensive medical device conference and exhibition, will feature an extensive four-track conference program when it is held at the new Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, September 9-10.

Developed and produced by the BioMedical Engineering Alliance & Consortium (BEACON, [BeaconAlliance.org](http://BeaconAlliance.org)), the conference will focus on Research/Scientific, Clinical Applications, Manufacturing and Commercialization. The latest developments and challenges in nanomedicine, drug delivery vehicles, drug/device combination products, robotic surgery, orthopedic implants and prosthetic devices, artificial organs and eHealth will be detailed and discussed in eight workshops and 10 breakout sessions, and the **MEDI 2008** ([MEDI2008.com](http://MEDI2008.com)) exhibit floor will follow a similar line, including pavilions for new companies and international participants.

**‘A Significant Scientific and Business Event for the Medical Device Industry’**

“**MEDI 2008** will be a significant scientific and business event for the medical device industry, said Joseph Bronzino PhD, PE, president of BEACON and the Vernon Roosa Professor of Applied Science at Trinity College. “**MEDI**,” he said, “has grown from the Hartford area and the I-90 corridor across the country and around the world and both our extensive conference and show floor will reflect the emergence and evolution of our event and industry.”

90-minute workshops and one-hour breakout sessions will be held in each track:

– Research/Scientific: Workshops on Bionanotechnology: Medical Device Applications, David Reisner, Inframat Corp., and Commercializing Bionanotechnology (Raj Bawa PhD, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute); Breakouts: Advances in Biomaterials (Erin Lavik, Yale University), Drug/Device Combination Products (Mark Saltzman, Yale University), and Advances in Orthopedic Implants and Prosthetic Devices (Don Peterson, University of Connecticut);

– Clinical Application: Workshops on Robotic Surgery: Latest Advances and Future Opportunities (Martin Sklar, Medical Development Partners, and Issues Related to Clinical Trials for Medical Devices (Nancy Stark, PhD, Clinical Device Group); Breakouts: and eHealth Computer Applications in Medicine (Scott

Cleary, eHealthConnecticut), and Integrating Clinician Environmental Perspectives into Medical Device Development (Donna Moats, Covidien Health Care);

– Manufacturing: Workshops on Simulation for Precision Machining Operations (Robert Torrani, Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology) and Use of Polymers in Medical Devices: Challenges and Opportunities (Kevin P. Pelletier, Massachusetts Materials Research); Breakouts: Utilization of Lasers in Manufacturing (Stan Ream, Edison Welding Institute), and Nanomanufacturing – The Latest Tools to Produce New Products (Stephen McCarthy, University of Massachusetts at Lowell);

– Commercialization: Workshops on Regulatory and Payer Reimbursement Issues in a Global Market (Richard Coyne), and Critical Legal Considerations for Medical Devices Manufacturers – IP & Licensing Issues (Josh Kalkstein, Robinson & Cole LLP); Breakouts: Venture Capital Opportunities (Bernie Lynch, Connecticut Venture Group), and Risk Management/Compliance (Richard Dighello, Updike, Kelly & Spellacy P.C.).

The medical device industry is growing daily,” said Dr. Bronzino. “**MEDI 2008** hopes to spur that growth, and is proud that our industry will come together at one time and at one place in Hartford this September.”

Information on sponsorship opportunities, exhibition space and conference registration for **MEDi 2008** is available at (866) 867-1933, and at [MEDi2008.com](http://MEDi2008.com).

#### **About BEACON**

The producer of **MEDi 2008**, BEACON (the BioMedical Engineering Alliance & Consortium) is a non-profit trade organization comprised of academic and medical institutions and corporations dedicated to development and commercialization in medical devices and technology. BEACON actively emphasizes the importance of the medical device industry as a key economic engine for greater Hartford, Connecticut, the I-91 corridor, the Northeast and beyond . . . including working to increase international interest.

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