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PriMed Management Consulting Services, Inc. Selected as One of the Best in the Nation for Benefits

Judges Name San Ramon Company as One of “The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security”

(Des Moines, Iowa) – PriMed Management Consulting Services, Inc., the management services organization for Hill Physicians Medical Group based in San Ramon, Calif., is one of only 10 growing companies earning national acclaim for using business smarts to offer their employees extraordinary benefits in the face of an economic storm.

As part of the recognition, The Principal Financial Group Foundation, Inc. will make a \$2,500 contribution to PriMed’s charity of choice – the American Heart Association – in PriMed’s name.

An independent judging panel of employee benefits experts named PriMed Management Consulting Services, Inc. as one of the 2009 winners of *The Principal® 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security*, citing the company’s commitment to employee education – wellness and retirement planning, in particular.

“PriMed faces the same challenges as other businesses. What makes them extraordinary is the priority they place on employee financial security,” said Luke Vandermillen, vice president at The Principal®. “They understand the direct connection between strong benefits, a strong workforce and a strong bottom line – in the best and worst of times.”

The Principal Financial Group® sponsors the national program, which is now in its eighth year. It honors growing companies for their commitment to their employees’ financial security.

“PriMed is a company that emphasizes employee development. Their commitment of offering employees 16 hours of education, combined with their generous tuition reimbursement program, really helps to set them up for the future of their business,” said Connie Rank-Smith, SPHR, CEBS, CMS, vice president of human resources, Jewelers Mutual Insurance (winner of *The Principal 10 Best Companies – 2008*) and judge of *The Principal 10 Best Companies – 2009*.

“It’s a terrific honor to be selected as one of *The Principal 10 Best Companies*,” said Steve McDermott, CEO, PriMed Management Consulting Services. “Investing in quality people and having them stay with us for the long-term helps us produce a better product and a better service.”

A summary of best practices from PriMed and other winners will be published and available in January 2010 at www.principal.com/10best.

The 2009 Winners

- ASCD, Alexandria, Va.
- Credit Union West, Glendale, Ariz.
- Kennebec Savings Bank, Augusta, Maine
- Knoxville TVA Employee Credit Union, Knoxville, Tenn.
- PriMed Management Consulting Services, Inc., San Ramon, Calif.
- Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc. (PAR, Inc.), Lutz, Fla.
- Shenandoah Shared Hospital Services, Inc., Harrisonburg, Va.
- Synaptics Inc., Santa Clara, Calif.
- The Cleveland Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio
- The Summit Federal Credit Union, Rochester, N.Y.

To learn more about the winners and the judging process, visit www.principal.com/10best.

About PriMed

PriMed Management Consulting Services, Inc., provides administrative and managerial support to Hill Physicians Medical Group. Hill Physicians is one of the largest and most successful Independent Physician Associations (IPAs) in California. Founded in 1984, PriMed's 450 employees provide services to 3,000 doctors in the Hill Group.

Benefit highlights include:

- 86 to 87 percent employer-paid medical insurance premiums for employees
- 74 to 77 percent employer-paid medical insurance premiums for dependents
- 401(k) plan with a 100 percent employer match up to 6.5 percent of employee pay deferred; average employee deferral of 6.9 percent
- 100 percent employer-paid premiums for short- and long-term disability insurance

About The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security

The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security is a national program that recognizes small- and medium- size companies that excel at giving their employees a financial edge.

Entrants must:

- Have between five and 1,000 employees
- Be based in the United States
- Have provided a broad range of employee benefits for at least five years
- Offer traditional employee benefits such as retirement and health, life and/or disability insurance

No entry fee is required. Companies owned by employees of The Principal are not eligible to enter. For more information, visit www.principal.com/10best.

About the Principal Financial Group

The Principal Financial Group[®] (The Principal[®])¹ is a leader in offering businesses, individuals and institutional clients a wide range of financial products and services, including retirement and investment services, life and health insurance, and banking through its diverse family of financial services companies. A member of the Fortune 500, the Principal Financial Group has \$257.7 billion in assets under management² and serves some 18.8 million customers worldwide from offices in Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America and the United States. Principal Financial Group, Inc. is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol PFG. For more information, visit www.principal.com.

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² As of June 30, 2009