



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kevin Hannah  
Telephone: 303.862.7961  
Email: [kevin.hannah@med-rt.com](mailto:kevin.hannah@med-rt.com)

### **Med-RT and Deaf Link Announce Partnership to Expand Access to American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation**

Deaf and Hard-Of-Hearing Patients receiving care at Rural Healthcare Facilities to have access to ASL Interpreters

*Mission Viejo, CA – March 28, 2008:* Med-RT, LLC, a provider of telemedicine managed services today announced their partnership with Deaf Link, Inc. to include the Deaf Link® ASL interpreting service in the package of services offered to rural hospitals and clinics. The combination of services allow deaf or hard of hearing patients that rely on ASL in rural communities, estimated at over 5 million, to overcome the language barrier with their healthcare provider; often a serious threat to the quality of care, preventing physician or nurse from obtaining an accurate history and description of the problems, or communicating diagnoses and treatment advice, or even getting “informed consent”. This assuming that patients actually seek treatment in the first place, since such encounters can provoke great anxiety.

“Most people do not realize that ASL is a visual language with no roots in English and as a consequence written notes and instructions are not effective communication for the majority of persons who are deaf,” explains Kay Chiodo, President/CEO of Deaf Link. “This means the only methods for providing ASL interpretation are in person or via live video.”

“Having access to an in-house ASL interpreter would be the exception rather than the rule for the vast majority of rural facilities, and until now video was not a realistic option either,” said John Faltys, CEO, Med-RT. “However, with the FCC offering grants to fund connectivity and telemedicine managed services providing the key to successfully deploying video communications utilizing the connectivity this is no longer the case.”

Med-RT Telemedicine Managed Services allow rural facilities to break down the barriers to deploying sustainable telemedicine programs:

- Limited or no internal specialist resources
- Limited budget
- Managing future program growth of available services and system utilization/usage
- Maintaining reliability
- Achieving proven success
- Distraction from providing quality healthcare

and build a foundational platform for telemedicine – one with the Deaf Link® service immediately available.

**About Med-RT, LLC**

Med-RT™ is a Telemedicine Managed Service Provider (MSP) offering a complete, flexible, scalable, service portfolio to rural, urban, and teaching hospitals, as well as community clinics and other healthcare facilities. Our services reduce the cost, accelerate deployment, and alleviate the need for specialized technical internal resources required to deploy successful, sustainable, telemedicine programs. We also offer the advantage of:

- Specialized mobile systems for healthcare encounters
- [Patent-pending] Appliance for remote management and monitoring of endpoint systems
- [Patent-pending] Command and control dashboard (available for multiple touchpad devices) providing pluggable dashlets for camera control, call management, and intelligent resource routing
- On-Demand Interpretive Services network
- On-Demand Specialist Consult Services network
- Commitment to making the visionary promise of telemedicine a reality

For more information about our Telemedicine Managed Services, visit [www.med-rt.com](http://www.med-rt.com)

**About Deaf Link, Inc.**

Deaf Link provides quality three-way communication between the business/governmental agency, a certified ASL interpreter and the deaf customer/employee/patient through the use of video/audio conferencing and high-speed Internet connections. Our communication center, staffed with certified sign language interpreters, open 24/7, provides an internet video conferencing solution that replaces most onsite interpretation services currently being utilized for the deaf.

For more information about our ASL interpreting services, please visit [www.deaflink.com](http://www.deaflink.com)