

## H1N1 Flu - Preparedness and Response Statement

Covidien is closely monitoring developments related to the H1N1 flu, and is working proactively to address the situation across our global operations so we are prepared to help protect our employees and continue serving our customers and their patients who depend on us.

The Company has formed a Leadership Task Force to monitor events related to the outbreak and to ensure that an adequate pandemic preparedness plan is in place. The team includes representatives from Environmental Health & Safety, Security, Risk Management, Communications, Public Affairs, Human Resources, Medical Affairs, Operations and Information Services. This cross-functional task force has been meeting regularly to manage Covidien's response to the H1N1 outbreak.

Covidien's pandemic preparedness plans were developed to ensure that any impact to our business is minimized by proactively addressing threats. Key elements of our plans include:

- Identifying key business operations, personnel and processes to quickly mobilize pandemic preparedness teams at the country, site and business level
- Protecting our business operations and supply chain to mitigate potential business interruptions
- Managing inventories and closely coordinating with our suppliers to ensure continued availability of products
- Educating employees on how they can limit their exposure to H1N1 and its impact, including communicating Company policies and guidelines regarding employee health, absenteeism and travel.

Covidien regularly works with its key suppliers, shipping agents, distributors and wholesalers to verify that their contingency plans meet the Company's business needs. Where possible, Covidien has developed flexibility within its global manufacturing and distribution networks to implement measures that help mitigate any possible supply interruptions.

The Company's Leadership Task Force is also utilizing a range of expert resources, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), for their guidance and direction.

## **Covidien is Prepared**

While the ultimate course of the H1N1 flu is impossible to predict, Covidien has appropriate contingency plans in place to manage the potential challenges that may arise. We are confident that our plans will address the needs of our customers and patients, as well as the health and safety of our employees.

## **For More Information**

Information about the H1N1 flu outbreak is available at: the CDC website: [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu) and the WHO website: [www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html).