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The Leapfrog Group Looks to the Future as Delbanco Announces Future Departure

Delbanco and Board of Directors Launch Search for Successor

Washington DC, August 2, 2007 – Suzanne Delbanco PhD, today announces her intention to leave her post as CEO of The Leapfrog Group, a consortium of large employers and other purchasers of health care, sometime in the fall.

Seven years ago, Ms. Delbanco helped launch an upstart organization designed to leapfrog entrenched barriers in the health system in order to improve care and rationalize costs. Today, it has become clear that the health care system is indeed responsive to bold experimentation and to the voice of major purchasers of health care. The Leapfrog Group has accomplished many of its initial goals: The health system has adopted the use of standard measures on quality and safety; providers have begun to report publicly on those measures; and, incentives and rewards are being employed by health care purchasers to recognize providers who perform well on those indicators. These critical mechanisms are now a part of the permanent fabric of the health care system.

Ms. Delbanco will continue in her position while helping to oversee a successful search for new leadership.

“Serving at Leapfrog's helm has been my most treasured career experience,” commented Ms. Delbanco, CEO, The Leapfrog Group. “I intend to fuel my entrepreneurial spirit further at a new post, yet to be determined, in the health care arena.”

The Leapfrog Group Board of Directors has launched a national search for a new CEO.

“Much more work remains to be done and with impassioned members and directors, The Leapfrog Group will continue to be a vital force in pushing more leaps forward in health care,” stated Jill Berger, Chair of The Leapfrog Group and Vice President, Health & Welfare for Marriott International, Inc.

The Leapfrog Group (www.leapfroggroup.org). On behalf of the millions of Americans for whom many of the nation's largest corporations and public agencies buy health benefits, The Leapfrog Group aims to use its members' collective leverage to initiate breakthrough improvements in the safety, quality, and affordability of health care for Americans. The Leapfrog Group was founded in November 2000 by the Business Roundtable and is supported by its members, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Commonwealth Fund, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and other sources.

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