



Helping People Live Life Better

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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **LOCAL BUSINESS RECEIVES HME NEWS NATIONAL AWARD: “BEST REHAB PROVIDER 2006”**

TARENTUM, September 28, 2006 – BLACKBURN’S, a regional provider of home medical equipment and supplies based in Tarentum, PA, received the national *HME News* Excellence Award, Best Rehab Provider for 2006. In cooperation with AAHomecare, the industry’s national association, *HME News* presented the award during a special ceremony at the national Medtrade conference in Atlanta on September 19. *HME News* is a national business newspaper for home medical equipment providers.

Selected from 20 rehab nominees across the nation, BLACKBURN’S received the award based on financial stability; compliance with federal and state guidelines and policies; educational programming designed for physicians and clinicians; continuous improvement to professional services; customer satisfaction; and community based programs to improve the quality of life for patients in the U.S. and in third-world countries. BLACKBURN’S rehab division specializes in serving individuals who require highly technical manual and power wheelchairs, anatomical positioning and other specialized devices due to traumatic accident, birth anomaly or disease process.

“We started the HME Excellence Awards five years ago to recognize the best providers in the industry,” said Mike Moran, editor of *HME News*. “The winners represent the cream of the crop, and we hope other providers will try to emulate their high standards.”

Established in 1936, BLACKBURN’S offers a comprehensive array of products and services in addition to rehab, including durable medical equipment, nutritional supplements, bariatric equipment and respiratory services for patients living at home, in long-term care and assistive living centers.

BLACKBURN’S is also a full-service pharmacy and ships medications and medical supplies nationwide.

“Winning the *HME News* National Excellence Award is an honor and reinforces BLACKBURN’S mission of providing the highest level of product, service, knowledge and commitment to our customers,” said Ronald Rukas, president and co-owner, BLACKBURN’S.

#### **About BLACKBURN’S**

Originally established as an independent community pharmacy, BLACKBURN’S has grown into a leading regional provider of home healthcare products and services. Accredited through the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) since 1995, BLACKBURN’S provides services to Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio, Northern West Virginia and Western New York through its 150 employees and facilities in Tarentum and Erie, PA and Buffalo, New York.