



Dear Supplier,

Covidien is a leading global healthcare products company that creates innovative medical solutions for better patient outcomes and delivers value through clinical leadership and excellence. We manufacture, distribute and service a diverse range of industry-leading product lines in three segments: Medical Devices, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies.

To ensure that quality is at the forefront of our commitment to patients, clinicians, customers and colleagues, we have developed a commitment to quality program – ***Quality Begins with Me***. At the core of the program is a focus on doing things right the first time, every time. As a key supply partner, you play an essential role in our value stream and affect our ability to deliver safe and effective products to the market.

The *Quality Begins with Me* program builds on our foundation of quality systems, and provides tools and information to help each of us better understand the important role we play. These tools also help us learn what actions and behaviors are supportive of a Quality-focused organization.

As a key partner, please consider using this program with your employees to encourage relentless attention to detail, accountability, speaking up and understanding of the affects poor quality has on patients. The *Quality Begins with Me* program focuses on how errors can affect the people who depend on the products we make together. Please help increase the visibility of Quality metrics for employees and learn to recognize behaviors that promote Quality awareness and compliance.

While you may not always get to see the end result of the products made by Covidien, I hope that you let us know what you need to help us, as a team, ensure the safety and efficacy of every single product we deliver to the marketplace.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Covidien's Global Sourcing Organization