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Copernicus Group IRB Renews Accreditation with WBENC

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Research Triangle Park, N.C. – Copernicus Group IRB, a business specializing in providing protection for human subjects through the initial and ongoing review of research studies, received national recertification as a Women's Business Enterprise by the Michigan Women's Business Council, a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). CGIRB first achieved certification in January 2005.

WBENC's national standard of certification implemented by the Michigan Women's Business Council is a meticulous process including an in-depth review of the business and site inspection. The certification process is designed to confirm the business is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by a woman or women.

"We are thrilled to earn our recertification from the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. They set a high standard for their certified companies, and we are committed to meeting and maintaining those standards", said Mary Ann Fallon, Chief Operating Officer of CGIRB. "Certification helps corporations and government agencies that are committed to including minority- and women-owned businesses among their vendors and suppliers by verifying that that the entities meet the standards to be classified as women-owned businesses."

About Copernicus Group IRB

Copernicus Group IRB, established in July, 1996, is an independent institutional review board (IRB or "Board") composed of highly qualified individuals dedicated to providing the ethical review of research to ensure the protection of the rights and welfare of research study participants. The Board reviews research protocols, investigators, and subject information and consent forms to ensure compliance with federal regulations and consideration of local concerns. CGIRB operates in compliance with Federal Regulations set forth in 21CFR, 45 CFR and ICH/GCP Guidelines and achieved full AAHRPP re-accreditation in 2007. For more information, visit www.cgirb.com.

About WBENC

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council is the nation's largest third party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women in the United States. WBENC is a resource for the more than

700 US companies and government agencies that rely on WBENC's certification as an integral part of their supplier diversity programs. For more information, visit wbenc.org.

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