



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Delta Dental System Gains Enrollees in Down Economy *More enrollees take advantage of increased cost savings in 2008*

OAK BROOK, IL (July XX, 2009) -- While the U.S. economy took a hit in 2008, the national Delta Dental system posted its 29th consecutive year of growth. Its base of enrollees grew nearly three million from the previous year, bringing the total number to more than 54 million. That represents more than one-fourth of the estimated 173 million Americans with dental benefits.

“Given the dismal economic state in 2008, we’re pleased our enrollment continued to increase,” said Tom Dolatowski, vice president of business development for Delta Dental Plans Association. “The fact that employers continued to offer dental benefits, demonstrates their understanding of the importance of dental coverage for their employees’ oral and overall health.”

Delta Dental’s cost-management measures and contractual agreements with dentists saved groups and enrollees nearly \$6 billion in 2008, \$200 million more than in 2007.

“We are proud of the growth we’re seeing in savings for our groups and enrollees,” said Dolatowski. “Providing access to affordable dental care is the focus of our organization, and last year’s figures show that we’re doing this better and for more people every year.”

Delta Dental also offers groups and enrollees the largest network of dentists in the nation, a position the nation’s leading dental benefits system has held for more than five decades. The Delta Dental Premier® network has more than 125,000 dentists, nearly 61,000 more than the next closest national competitor.

The not-for-profit Delta Dental Plans Association (www.deltadental.com) based in Oak Brook, Ill., is the leading national network of independent dental service corporations specializing in providing dental benefits programs to more than 54 million Americans in more than 89,000 employee groups throughout the country.

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