



NEWS RELEASE

## IAHTM 2018 Annual Meeting Recap: A 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fete, Professional Development, And 2 Lifetime Achievements Honorees

Powell, OH. – Oct. 16, 2018 – The International Association for Healthcare Textile Management (IAHTM) held its 2018 Annual Meeting recently in Naples, FL, which culminated with members, guests, presenters and sponsors commemorating the organization’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary during a red-carpet event that included a celebration dinner and the presentation of two lifetime achievement awards.

IAHTM is a nonprofit membership organization for healthcare laundry cooperatives that provides senior-level textile managers with resources and support to maximize their laundries’ efficiencies and control costs without compromising quality or patient focus.

IAHTM President Myles Noel noted a record turnout for the event. “Nicole Grubich and her team put together a full educational schedule complete with learning and networking opportunities and some exciting surprises.” Noel is CEO, Central Ohio Medical Textiles (COMTEX), Columbus, OH. Grubich is 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, IAHTM; she is executive director, West Michigan Shared Hospital Laundry, Grand Rapids, MI.

The meeting featured a variety of speakers presenting on a range of relevant industry topics. “IAHTM’s motto is, ‘Connect, Engage, Succeed,’ and we were again this year pleased to be able to provide attendees an opportunity to meet others, network and learn,” Noel said.

Educational programs included:

- A presentation of IAHTM benchmarking results
- A presentation on a new testing program from the Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council
- A presentation on building a disinfection prevention program
- A presentation on bleaching and hygienically clean in the healthcare wash process
- A presentation on healthcare benefit trends
- A presentation on practical strategies for managing growing risk
- A presentation on providing linen management quality to JC standards
- A panel discussion reviewing industry linen and equipment
- A presentation on sales and leadership



IAHTM recognized Steve Ripley and Alan Schwartz as “2018 Lifetime Achievement” recipients. Ripley is past president of Space Coast Hospital Services Inc., Rockledge, FL. Schwartz is recently retired as president of Superior Uniform Group, Seminole, FL.

**About IAHTM**

Founded in 1968, the International Association for Healthcare Textile Management (IAHTM) is a nonprofit organization serving healthcare laundry cooperatives. IAHTM membership comprises experienced laundry executives serving 7,000 healthcare facilities in the USA and Canada. IAHTM members have access to training and education programs, benchmarking resources, peer information sharing and networking, and group purchasing power on textiles and chemicals. *www.iahtm.com*