

Press Release

## East Coast Orthotic & Prosthetic Corp. Announces Provider Contract with HIP

Announcement Proceeds Previous GHI Agreement

**Mineola, New York, June 20, 2006** - East Coast Orthotic & Prosthetic Corp. (“ECOP”), the Mineola, New York-based organization specializing in prosthetics and orthotics, has signed an agreement with HIP Health Plan of New York (“HIP”) for coverage in the tri-state area, that is effective as of April 1, 2006.

“We are very excited to announce our contract with HIP Health Plan of New York,” said Lawrence J. Benenati, President of East Coast Orthotic & Prosthetic Corp. “This new agreement allows us to significantly expand our patient base.”

HIP is the largest HMO in New York City based on membership. The company acquired ConnectiCare, one of the largest health plans in Connecticut, in 2005 and Vytra Health Plans in 2001.

HIP announced a merger with GHI in September 2005. Altogether, HIP’s total membership stands at approximately 1.4 million, according to the company and will expand to more than 4 million after the GHI merger closes. East Coast secured a coverage agreement with GHI in January 2006.

“East Coast prides itself in being able to provide the best service possible for our patients,” said Vincent A. Benenati, CEO of East Coast Orthotic & Prosthetic Corp. “This new agreement allows us to further do so.”

Established in 1997 by brothers Lawrence and Vincent Benenati, East Coast Orthotic & Prosthetic Corp. has become a leader in custom orthotic, prosthetic and rehabilitation devices. Nearly a decade later, the company has expanded significantly in the tri-state area.

As the largest privately owned, board-certified orthotic and prosthetic company in the New York metropolitan area, East Coast Orthotic & Prosthetic Corp. serves patients at over 25 locations throughout the region and in Buffalo, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Some of the hospital-based locations include but are not limited to New York- Presbyterian Medical Center, SUNY Downstate Medical Center and Beth Israel Medical Center. For more information, log on to [www.ec-op.com](http://www.ec-op.com).