



**News Release
Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council**

**Coast to Coast
HLAC Expertise, Standards on Display At APIC Chapter
Educational Conferences**

PLAINFIELD, IL - Nov. 10, 2016 - The increasingly in-demand expertise and standards of the Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) were on display recently at two educational conferences held on separate coasts by chapters of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC).

Gregory Gicewicz, HLAC immediate past president and current board member, spoke on how to prevent the contamination of healthcare textiles at the APIC Puget Sound chapter conference, "Combating Infection Risks in the Healthcare Environment." This was Gicewicz's second presentation before this chapter this year. He is president of Sterile Surgical Systems, Tumwater, WA.

Another former HLAC president and board member, Rocco Romeo presented at the APIC New England chapter's conference, "Infection Prevention for a Safer Environment," where he spoke about the need for collaboration among HLAC and Infection Preventionists (IPs) to ensure hygienically clean and safe healthcare textiles. Romeo is CEO, HLS Linen Services, and Ottawa, ON, Canada.

HLAC also recently exhibited at APIC's 43rd Annual Conference.

Commenting on the presentations, HLAC President John Scherberger said, "We were impressed by the eager reception HLAC received from Infection Preventionists (IPs). IPs have a lot of respect for HLAC's independent, processes-based approach to its standards. Many of them use the HLAC Standards checklist when inspecting healthcare laundries. And, in fact, we're hearing from IPs that HLAC accreditation is becoming a requirement by healthcare facilities to be considered a laundry vendor.

HLAC Accreditation Standards are established as the minimum acceptable practice for the preparation of hygienically clean, reusable healthcare textiles for patient care, implemented and executed by accredited laundry facilities processing reusable healthcare textiles.

About HLAC

The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) is a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of inspecting and accrediting laundries processing healthcare textiles for hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities. Visit www.hlacnet.org and on Twitter [@NewsHlac](https://twitter.com/NewsHlac).

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