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# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CONNECT – THE NEXT LEVEL OF PROVIDER NETWORK MANAGEMENT**

Lakeland, Florida  
March 19, 2010

As a leader in the workers' compensation disability management arena, Bunch & Associates Inc., (hereafter "Bunch") is keenly aware of the connection between high-performing medical providers in workers' compensation and successful claim outcomes. Bunch has formally launched *Connect: Your Outcomes-Based Provider Solution* which relies on each client's willingness to share claims data to measure and customize provider networks. Through the identification and maintenance of cost effective, workers' comp-savvy medical providers, Bunch is able to bring success to each program empowering all of the involved parties to receive the best medical and return-to-work outcome.

George Furlong, Vice President, Program Development and Analytics, has been with Bunch for three (3) years and offers over 15 years of industry experience. George offers significant expertise in the provision of in-depth medical and disability data analytics and has been instrumental in building Bunch's Outcomes-Based Provider Solution, *Connect*.

Functioning as an extension of a Risk Management Department, *Connect* helps to ensure injured employees receive the best possible outcome when suffering from a workplace injury. George Furlong confirmed Bunch's intent to remain innovative in this critical area: "Offering 'Best in Class' solutions is a major differentiator for Bunch. By utilizing client-provided historical claim information within our data warehouse, we are able to measure overall claim outcomes, physician patterns, medical care, and return-to-work results." Furlong added, "By measuring specific claims data against overall network expectations, we can connect each client with preferred providers that yield premium results." Taking the traditional network configuration to the next level, Bunch provides yet another tool to manage return-to-work results, directly impacting the overall cost of claims.

### ***About Bunch & Associates:***

Bunch & Associates is a disability management company headquartered in Lakeland, Florida. It is recognized by many employers as a preferred partner because it truly delivers service beyond expectations. Integrating technology, service and value, Bunch's multi-disciplinary approach brings claim adjusters, nurse case managers, medical bill review staff and treating physicians together to act as extensions of the employer's Risk Management Department. Working together, Bunch has proven its ability to significantly improve the results achieved by traditional insurance programs.

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