



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **NASCO Celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Shares its Vision for the Future**

**Atlanta, GA – April 26, 2007** – NASCO announced today that it has marked its twentieth anniversary. Originally formed in 1987 as a healthcare claims processing system for General Motors and other national accounts, NASCO has evolved into a product-based services company that has the capability to successfully support cost-effective administration of both national and local account business for its customer BlueCross<sup>®</sup> and BlueShield<sup>®</sup> (BCBS) Plans' total book of business. NASCO has a long tradition and solid reputation of providing outstanding service to BCBS Plans, evidenced by remarkable growth since its inception.

NASCO's exponential growth in claims processed and types of business served is demonstrated by the record 137 million claims it processed in 2006. This belies the company's humble beginning when it processed just 23 million claims in 1988. Last year, NASCO also grew its contract business by 6.7%, moved a number of critical solutions toward completion, and increased revenue by 7.1%. Forward-looking products such as *Consumer's Choice*<sup>sm</sup>, its second-generation consumer-directed healthcare (CDH) processing solution; *FlexLink*<sup>sm</sup> the enhanced jointly-administered processing solution; and a new membership solution will revolutionize how Plans administer benefits, billing, and enrollment. NASCO has laid the groundwork to continue building on its strong legacy of helping its BCBS customers compete successfully in an intensely dynamic marketplace.

NASCO Chief Executive Officer, John Ladaga, states, *"NASCO is a strong company, focused on and capable of taking on the many opportunities that have arisen this year and in years to come. We have a motivated leadership team, strong customer commitment, a solid financial position, a dedicated workforce, and best-in-the-business technology partners. We are ready to realize our*

*vision of the future, in which we are the partner of choice to handle the total processing needs - local and national business - of an increased number of BlueCross and BlueShield Plans".*

2007 is not only NASCO's twentieth anniversary, but also the year in which it has pledged increased momentum in carrying out its *Generation Three* initiative, which revamps the company's application delivery services and its System Management Strategy (SMS), which modernizes the company's technology systems. These initiatives, coupled with a continued focus on performance excellence will enable NASCO to be *better, faster, and cheaper*, passing those benefits of a responsive and adaptive system on to customer Plans. Darin McDonald, NASCO Chief Information Officer, asserts, *"We will continue to expand our already rich offerings to ensure that NASCO meets the processing needs of our current customers and future prospects. We continue to aggressively implement our Systems Management Strategy which ensures that we have a single-system offering that allows us to cost-effectively support customer growth, through customization and integration with specific Plan solutions."*

Expect even more substantial progress in the coming years as NASCO continues to deliver business solutions enabled by the modernized system, achieve operational excellence for both NASCO and its customers that results in lower total cost of ownership and provide market-driven product capabilities that fuel top-line revenue growth for both NASCO and its Plan customers. NASCO is positioned to be the trusted partner of choice for BlueCross and BlueShield business.

**About NASCO:**

Formed in 1987, NASCO offers system and service solutions exclusively to many BlueCross<sup>®</sup> and BlueShield<sup>®</sup> (BCBS) healthcare Plans. NASCO's single-system, flexible approach to health benefits processing offers cost-effective solutions, giving customers a competitive edge in the marketplace. Connecting many BlueCross and BlueShield Plans across the country, NASCO is currently used to process healthcare claims for more than 2,300 accounts. In 2006, BlueCross and BlueShield Plan customers used NASCO to process nearly 140 million claims for over 10 million members. Web site: [www.nasco.com](http://www.nasco.com).

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