



*“Ensuring excellence and changing lives through equine-assisted activities and therapies”*

**Recipient of the 2013 Equine Industry Vision Award,  
sponsored by Zoetis and presented by American Horse Publications**

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**Purina Returns as Title Sponsor and Official Feed of PATH Intl.**

Denver—**Purina Animal Nutrition** will continue its title sponsorship of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.), according to the association. Purina has been a sponsor of PATH Intl. for many years, and this year marks the seventh year in a row that Purina has honored PATH Intl. by becoming its title sponsor. Purina is also the official feed of PATH Intl.

The team at Purina, the leader in equine nutrition, is proud to support PATH Intl. and the fantastic work done by the organization, its member centers and numerous volunteers every day. Purina and PATH Intl. share a strong sense of responsibility to the animals and people in PATH Intl. programs. That sense of responsibility is reflected in the performance of Purina’s feeds, which are backed by years of extensive equine research and feed development. “At Purina, we are incredibly proud to be a part of the PATH Intl. family and for the opportunity to support the special bond between people and equines that are created every day,” wrote Land O Lakes Purina Feed Director David Nelson in a letter to PATH Intl. conference attendees. “We’ve been living and working with animals since 1926. That’s why we develop the highest quality animal nutrition possible. We know this kind of dedication is exhibited every day at PATH Intl. Member Centers, and the amazing strides participants make are evidence of that.”

“The association is pleased to name Purina the official feed of PATH Intl. The uncommon quality of Purina’s feeds matches the quality the public has come to expect at PATH Intl. Member Centers,” said PATH Intl. CEO Kathy Alm. “The financial support and increased awareness Purina brings to PATH Intl. is invaluable. We are thrilled and very grateful for Purina’s continued sponsorship of PATH Intl. and in the ongoing activities throughout the year that support excellence in services to people with special needs.”

According to Kaye Marks, PATH Intl. Director of Marketing and Communications, the association improves the quality, safety and efficacy of equine-assisted activities and therapies each year by credentialing instructors and other professionals and accrediting centers. Educational opportunities throughout the year, including the annual conference and online learning, offer networking and the required continuing education that is absolutely necessary for the continued growth and professionalism of the field. PATH Intl., recognized as a leader in the field, certifies approximately 600 new professionals and accredits 50 centers per year.

For information about PATH Intl., visit [www.pathintl.org](http://www.pathintl.org).

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***About PATH Intl.:***

The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International® (PATH Intl.®) was formed in 1969 to promote safety and optimal outcomes in equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) for individuals with special needs. At 866

member centers, nearly 62,000 children and adults, including nearly 4,000 veterans, may find improved health, wellness and a sense of pride and independence through involvement with horses. Therapeutic horsemanship at member centers may include hippotherapy, equine-facilitated mental health, driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, groundwork and stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful EAAT programs. There are more than 55,000 volunteers, 4,666 instructors, 7,672 equines and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at PATH Intl. Member Centers.