



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **GSG ASSOCIATES JOINS COMPALLIANCE TO FORM NATIONAL WORKERS' COMPENSATION FIRM**

Kansas City, MO and Pasadena, CA, April 10, 2017 – CompAlliance, LLC, a Kansas City-based provider of Workers' Compensation services, including Case Management, Bill Review, Provider Network Management, along with other ancillary services has agreed to acquire GSG Associates, Inc. as part of both companies' strategies to create a national provider of outcome-driven Workers' Compensation services.

GSG brings 23 years of experience providing Workers' Compensation medical and disability management, Utilization Management, Medical Legal consulting, and Early Intervention services, along with a reputation for achieving efficiencies for employers through a patient advocacy model. CompAlliance has been a provider of a host of Workers' Compensation services since 1993, including Nurse Case Management, Vocational Case Management, Physician Network Development, 24 Hour Injury Reporting and Triage, Alternative Transitional Duty, Bill Review, and Durable Medical Equipment. The merger of these two companies allows GSG to offer a host of additional services to their clients, as well as the resources to expand nationally. It also provides CompAlliance additional expertise in telephonic case management, and allows CompAlliance to offer Utilization Management services from one of California's most respected Utilization Management firms.

GSG will maintain its Pasadena California headquarters, and the executive team and management will continue to operate GSG, but as part of the merger process, GSG will begin rebranding as CompAlliance over the next several weeks.

"We are excited to add GSG to the CompAlliance family, the shared culture of the organizations is strategically aligned. GSG has demonstrated that CLIENT FIRST vision brings significant value to our customers and will complement the established mission of CompAlliance ... Jim Weir"

"This merger was so attractive to us because our corporate cultures are so well-aligned. Like GSG, CompAlliance knows that expediting the most appropriate treatment results in the best outcomes for injured workers and in the most cost-effective workers' compensation programs for employers. Getting those results requires a strong team of nurses and physicians, and like GSG, CompAlliance wants to give our employees the best resources to serve our clients," said Jay Garrard, CEO, GSG Associates, who will become the Vice President of Western Regional Operations for the new organization.

Concurrent to this transaction, CompAlliance's parent company, Cobalt Ventures completed the purchase of Advocate Technology Solutions, a software company spun off from GSG Associates that specializes in Case Management and Utilization Review software for Workers' Compensation.

[www.CompAlliance.com](http://www.CompAlliance.com)

**About CompAlliance**

CompAlliance is a subsidiary of Cobalt Ventures, the for-profit subsidiary arm of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City (Blue KC), the largest health insurer in Western Missouri and northeast Kansas. CompAlliance is URAC accredited for Case Management. CompAlliance's multi-state, provider-based PPO provider network includes hospitals, specialists, MRI centers, occupational and physician clinics, and rehabilitation centers. The CompAlliance comprehensive case management services help injured workers receive quality care so they can return to work as soon as medically appropriate and cost-effectively. CompAlliance Early Intervention Vocational Services assist the injured worker to return to gainful employment.

**About GSG Associates**

Founded in 1994, by Registered Nurses, GSG Associates, Inc. provides unique cost-containment solutions through customized programs designed to meet client's needs in the Workers' Compensation, Employee Management and Disability Management industries. GSG is URAC Accredited for Workers' Compensation Utilization Management, and offers a host of Case Management services designed to assure the injured worker receive care in the most expeditious manner, assuring the best outcome for the injured worker, while simultaneously producing the most cost-effective results for employers and insurers.

# # #