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## **Boler Family Gives Rush University Medical Center \$20 Million, the Largest in Rush's 168-year History**

CHICAGO-Chicago-area business man John M. Boler and his wife, Mary Jo, have given \$20 million to Rush University Medical Center to create what will be one of the most advanced imaging centers in the country to better diagnose and treat patients for everything from heart attacks to cancers. The imaging centers will be located in new hospital and ambulatory care facilities that will be built in the coming years as part of the complete redevelopment of the medical center's near-West Side campus.

The Boler gift is the largest single donation to Rush since its founding in 1837, and one of the largest gifts ever to a Chicago-area hospital. The new imaging centers will be named The Mary Jo and John Boler Centers for Advanced Imaging.

The gift will fund acquisition of the most sophisticated and advanced medical imaging equipment available and construction of special facilities to house the imaging devices, and it will create an endowment fund in the Boler name to ensure that Rush can take full advantage of the rapid evolution of the science and technology of imaging over the next decade and beyond.

John Boler is chairman of the Boler Company (Itasca, Ill.), a holding company that does business as Hendrickson International. The Boler Company, among the largest privately held firms in the truck industry, makes truck and trailer suspension systems and auxiliary axle systems for the commercial heavy-duty vehicle market. Boler also held the positions of president and CEO until August 1, 2003.

"We are deeply appreciative of the Boler family's generosity and commitment to Rush University Medical Center. This is a landmark contribution that substantially helps us fulfill our ambitious plans for transformation of the Rush campus," said Dr. Larry J. Goodman, president and CEO of Rush. "The Boler family will forever be remembered for their generosity and how they helped Rush improve care by making available the best possible imaging for our patients."

"Both Mary Jo and I have been patients at Rush, and so we know firsthand what Rush's historic commitment to excellence in patient care means. We believe that by investing in state-of-the-art imaging technology and facilities, we can help elevate patient care across every specialty at Rush, from neonatology to aging and including cancer, heart, neurology and orthopedics, to name a few," said John Boler.

The Bolers have been associated with Rush for the past several years. John Boler was elected a trustee in 2004 and has served on the leadership committee of the Rush Heart and Vascular

Institute. Both Mary Jo and John Boler have received inpatient care at Rush. The Bolers have five grown children and ten grandchildren.

The Boler gift to Rush brings to more than \$100 million the total has been raised in the past 18 months to support Rush's plans for transforming its campus. Rush initiated the silent phase of a \$300 million capital fund-raising campaign in February 2004. Other significant gifts to Rush in 2004 include a \$13 million unrestricted, anonymous gift, a \$10 million commitment by the Woman's Board of Rush for a Heart and Vascular Center, and \$7.5 million from the McCormick Tribune Foundation toward a state-of-the art advanced emergency response center.

### **Rush's Plans for its Campus**

In spring 2004, Rush revealed its plans for the most comprehensive construction and facilities renovation program in its history. Over the next ten years, Rush will construct additional ambulatory care and hospital buildings; extensively renovate or replace existing patient care facilities; demolish the oldest buildings on the campus; and expand research facilities. The estimated \$630 million project will be financed through a variety of sources including philanthropy, income from operations and debt financing.

In May 2004 Rush selected a joint venture firm Skidmore, Owings, Merrill/ SmithGroup/ Environmental Systems Design, to assist Rush with its plans. Last month, Rush selected the joint venture of Power/Jacobs to serve as construction manager. Construction of the new hospital facility, including the new emergency medicine center, is expected to begin in 2007. Renovations on the existing Atrium and Kellogg buildings will follow.

"Throughout Rush's history, the patient has been at the core of all that we do, including research and education. Our goal is to physically transform our campus, to reorient it around the patient," said Dr. Goodman.

### **Imaging at Rush**

Rush was the first in Chicago to bring CT and MRI technologies to its patients. Advances in medical imaging have led to better diagnosis and treatment, medically and surgically, for many diseases. Today, imaging takes advantage of several advances in technology from the automation that rapidly assembles discrete, flat images into three-dimensional pictures, to ultra-precise detail that gives physicians accurate, non-invasive views of the body. The pace of innovation for imaging has accelerated over the past several years. Five years ago the 4-slice spiral CT scan was advanced to a 16-slice version and last year 32-, 40- and 64-slice versions were introduced. A 128-slice version will soon be available. Each step forward means more detail that allows better diagnosis and treatment.

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*Rush University Medical Center includes the 729-bed Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital; 79-bed Johnston R. Bowman Health Center; Rush University (Rush Medical College, College of Nursing, College of Health Sciences and the Graduate College).*