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GROWING LEADER IN VETERINARY MEDICINE CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN MICHIGAN

August 31, 2011 (Southfield, Mich.) – Michigan Veterinary Specialists celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. Established in December of 1990 with two doctors and five staff in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan Veterinary Specialists (MVS) has grown to include three emergency and specialty medicine hospitals in Auburn Hills, Grand Rapids and Southfield and now supports 132 employees. Since its inception, more than 400,000 patients have been seen and treated by the MVS team of specialists, residents, emergency doctors and staff. The practice currently averages 2,200 patients per month with clients coming from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Canada.

Prior to the founding of MVS by Drs. Dan Lorimer, a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist, and Laura DeLellis, a board-certified veterinary cardiologist, the only other pet hospital with multiple specialists was the veterinary school at Michigan State University. Detroit suburbanites with gravely ill pets were required to drive to Lansing to seek answers and healing for their four-legged loved ones.

“Our practice grew by leaps and bounds because people were so glad to have a closer specialty hospital with multiple doctors collaborating on cases, just like at MSU. After only six months we had to expand into a second office suite and two years after opening we had to relocate to a larger facility in Southfield,” said Dr. Lorimer. By then, the practice included six specialty departments – Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Internal Medicine, Surgery, Neurology and Critical Care – and had gained a national reputation for excellence in veterinary medicine.

For the past 20 years, MVS has been on the forefront of its field helping dogs and cats with advanced diagnostics like CT and MRI scans, and human-like therapies such as laser surgery for cataracts and radiation therapy for cancer. Minimally invasive surgeries and procedures, considered the gold standard for humans, are regularly offered for patients at MVS.

The organization is also proud that its doctors and technicians regularly give back to the community by providing pro-bono services to the Detroit and Grand Rapids zoos, the Howell Nature Center and other wildlife rehabilitation organizations; presenting pet first aid and CPR classes to pet owners; and funding pet health insurance for Detroit and Southfield police dogs.

In 2010, MVS merged with BluePearl Veterinary Partners to become part of an organization of 22 specialty and emergency veterinary hospitals in nine states. Leadership of MVS remains local with the original partners running the day-to-day business operations and overseeing the services provided to pets and their owners.

About MVS

Founded in 1990, Michigan Veterinary Specialists is the specialty and emergency medical center of choice for tens of thousands of pet owners and their primary care veterinarians. Similar to human medicine, they work in partnership with a pet’s primary care veterinarian—through a referral system—to manage the pet’s health. A primary care veterinarian may recommend a specialist if the pet is presenting symptoms or conditions that require specialized diagnostic evaluation or treatment in areas such as Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Neurology, Dermatology, Radiology, Internal Medicine, Surgery, Oncology and Emergency/Critical Care. Michigan Veterinary Specialists has three hospitals in Michigan—Southfield, Auburn Hills and Grand Rapids. For more information, visit www.michvet.com