

30<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## **Virtualstock Announces Corporate Sponsorship of the Health Care Supply Association**

**Reading, England 30th May 2018** – Virtualstock, a leading provider of digital supply chain solutions, announces today that it has become a corporate sponsor of the Health Care Supply Association (‘HCSA’). The HCSA is a charity that promotes the work of all procurement and supply chain professionals at all levels across the NHS, representing a community of over 2000 key staff, and is dedicated to improving professional standards.

The sponsorship demonstrates Virtualstock’s continuous commitment to supporting the NHS in reaching its efficiency targets through its online catalogue and procure-to-pay (P2P) solution, The Edge4Health™. By connecting providers and suppliers on an online marketplace, The Edge4Health is currently helping the NHS achieve the £1bn p.a. procurement efficiency savings as identified by Lord Carter, in partnership with NHS Shared Business Services.

Virtualstock looks forward to collaborating with the HCSA through their sponsorship, to further support the work of procurement and supply chain staff. As a corporate sponsor of HCSA, Virtualstock will work with the association to promote the adoption of digital supply chain capabilities and skills across the NHS.

Virtualstock’s Vice President and General Manager of Healthcare and Public sector, James Thirkill, said of the sponsorship: “We are thrilled to sponsor the HCSA as we continue to deliver The Edge4Health to healthcare providers and suppliers. As always, our objective is to help Trusts achieve their efficiency targets, drive savings and improve control and compliance, whilst helping Suppliers become as efficient as possible in selling to and transacting with NHS hospitals.”

Virtualstock CEO and Chairman, Andrew Mills, said, “We are delighted to be working with HCSA. Our relationship with them demonstrates our progress and continuous commitment to the NHS and wider public sector.”

Alan Hoskins, HCSA’s Chief Officer, and Director of Procurement and Commercial Services at NHS South of England Procurement Services, said, “We are looking forward to developing our relationship with Virtualstock. Our focus is to support those working in NHS Procurement, and we recognise that our people will need to be equipped with the knowledge, insights, skills and tools necessary to deliver the digital supply chain of the future.”

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

### **Notes for Editors**

#### **About Virtualstock Limited**



Virtualstock is a leading British SaaS company that is transforming global enterprise supply chains and marketplaces. Its game-changing product, The Edge™, has been successful in delivering supply chain optimisation for leading retailers, the NHS, suppliers and, ultimately, their customers.

The Edge™ delivers best-in-class eProcurement functionality, including a consumer-style B2B marketplace, full procure-to-pay (P2P), product information management (PIM), catalogue management, order management, inventory and stock updates, e-invoicing, track and trace, and analytics. The platform is GS1<sup>1</sup> and PEPPOL<sup>2</sup> certified.

[www.virtualstock.co.uk](http://www.virtualstock.co.uk)

### **About the HCSA**

The Health Care Supply Association ('HCSA') was established in 1960 with the aim of promoting the work of procurement and supply chain staff at all levels in healthcare.

The HCSA's leading objectives are to provide a professional network that encourages shared learning, and to improve professional standards. The HCSA also aims to advance healthcare management and procurement, and other subjects as applied to all or any of the duties imposed upon functions undertaken by health services.

The Health Care Supply Association is affiliated with the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply ('CIPS'). As a registered charity in the UK, the HCSA is entirely self-financed.

<https://nhsprocurement.org.uk/>

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<sup>1</sup> GS1 is an international organisation that develops and maintains supply chain standards in healthcare, retail, transport and logistics and more.

<sup>2</sup> PEPPOL (Pan European Public Procurement On-Line) is a system that provides organisations and its suppliers with a standardised connection for eOrdering, eInvoicing, electronic Credit Notes and Advance Shipping Notifications. This single eProcurement link eradicates the need for several individual connections.