July 6, 2016   **For More Information**
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Port Jefferson, NY – The CASRO Institute for Research Quality (CIRQ) has awarded certification to M3 Global Research for compliance to the **ISO 27001 Standard.**

ISO 27001 provides a framework for companies to manage their data security. It establishes requirements for information controls to manage people, processes and technology and protect valuable company data.

The scope of M3's certification includes the company's Information Security Management System (ISMS) and controls of its premises, resources, and data centers.

"In today's complex world, companies need a way to know their data will be secured and protected. ISO27001 certification by CIRQ gives our clients the assurance they need that M3 USA provides a certified higher standard of data protection and security that they require when outsourcing work," commented Craig Overpeck, COO, Global Research at M3. "ISO27001 certification builds trust between M3, their clients, and the respondents sharing data. CIRQ facilities the end to end certification process with their auditors who understand both data security standards and market research standards."

ISO 27001 provides requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and continually improving an information security management system. The information security management system preserves the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information by applying a risk management process and gives confidence to interested parties that risks are adequately managed. It is important that the information security management system is integrated with the organization's processes and overall management structure and that information security is considered in the design of processes, information systems, and controls. It is expected that an information security management system implementation will be scaled in accordance with the needs of the organization. This International Standard can be used by internal and external parties to assess the organization's ability to meet the organization's own information security requirements.

About CIRQ
CASRO formed <u>CIRQ</u> (The CASRO Institute for Research Quality) to provide assessment and certification services to research firms seeking certification to ISO 20252, ISO 26362 and now ISO 27001. CIRQ, a non-profit entity, is committed to providing timely, thorough, and impartial assessments of its customers' quality management systems or information security management systems in order to make a determination regarding certification to corresponding standards. All CIRQ auditors for ISO 20252 and 26362 have extensive experience in the research industry. All ISO 27001 auditors are certified lead auditors and have comprehensive information security credentials. CIRQ has been established in compliance with all ISO requirements for certification bodies that provide auditing and certification services. In order to conform to its mandate of objective and impartial audits to these ISO standards, CIRQ is independently operated and managed under the oversight of an Advisory Board and submits to an audit against ISO/IEC 17065 Standard for Conformity assessment *Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services* conducted by external authorities on ISO certification bodies.

About M3 Global Research
M3 Global Research is the market research division of Tokyo-based M3 Inc. (TYO:2413) operating globally with a proprietary healthcare professionals panel of 1.3 million respondents in more than 60 countries. The division was created by uniting the worldwide healthcare panels of M3 companies and exclusive partners across the USA, Europe, Asia, and Latin America. M3 Global Research offers a broad range of capabilities including quantitative, qualitative utilizing call centers and in-country project managers. M3 has provided solutions for every top 20 pharmaceutical company in the world.

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