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**IFPTI AND RAPS RECEIVE FDA GRANT TO CREATE
GLOBAL WORKFORCE CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAM**

BOSTON/BATTLE CREEK, Mich., September 30, 2013 – The International Food Protection Training Institute (IFPTI) and the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) today announced that they have received a grant from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to address the workforce capacity issues facing food and drug regulators around the world, particularly among low-and middle-income countries. RAPS Executive Director Sherry Keramidas made the announcement this morning at 2013 RAPS: The Regulatory Convergence in Boston.

The 12-month project will focus on three major outcomes aimed at building a competent global regulatory workforce: define the core competencies of a regulatory professional, develop a competency based curriculum framework, and create a gap assessment tool. RAPS and IFPTI will work closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other global organizations.

“By examining the minimal competencies required for both food and health product regulators, our aim is to advance regulatory practices and address critical workforce capacity issues facing regulators,” said Dr. Julia Bradsher, President and CEO of the Global Food Protection Institute. “IFPTI’s partnership with RAPS will help build a stronger global regulatory system.”

“This project has meaning beyond just competencies and curricula,” said Keramidas. “Competent regulatory professionals are not only essential to good regulatory submissions, appropriate review and post approval compliance and surveillance, the regulatory profession is essential to shaping good regulatory practice and policy.”

About the Training Institute

The Training Institute is an initiative of the Global Food Protection Institute (GFPI), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Battle Creek, Mich., that is driving the adoption of food protection policies and practices for a safer global food supply. GFPI’s mission is to improve public health and reduce mortality, morbidity and economic costs associated with foodborne illnesses.

The Training Institute is building and administering the training infrastructure for the nation’s Integrated Food Safety System. IFPTI is dedicated to improving food safety by building training systems, providing regulation and standards-based curricula, and delivering training for U.S. and international public and private sector food safety professionals.

For more information, visit ifpti.org.

About RAPS

The Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) is the largest global organization of and for those involved with the regulation of healthcare and related products, including medical devices, pharmaceuticals, biologics and nutritional products. Founded in 1976, RAPS helped establish the regulatory profession and continues to actively support the professional and lead the profession as a neutral, non-lobbying nonprofit organization. RAPS offers education and training, professional standards, publications, research, knowledge sharing, networking, career development opportunities and other valuable resources, including Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC), the only post-academic professional credential to recognize regulatory excellence. RAPS is headquartered in suburban Washington, DC, with offices in Europe and Asia, and chapters and affiliates worldwide. RAPS.org

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