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Tenet adds presence to office park

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ALHAMBRA -- Tenet Healthcare Corp., one of the nation's largest HMO health-care providers, announced Friday that the company is expanding its presence at The Alhambra, a 45-acre, 900,000-square-foot office park.

The company previously had two central business office divisions at the park that comprised 35,400 square feet. The expansion will nearly triple Tenet's total occupancy to more than 91,000 square feet.

The 10 1/2-year lease at the new facility allows the Santa Barbara-based firm to consolidate much of its operations that have been based in Palm Springs, Orange County and Marina del Rey.

Tenet will phase in its occupancy at the new facility beginning in February and proceed through 2004, officials said.

The company will centralize all of its Southern California billing from there and have about 500 employees when the new facility is fully operational.

Tim Rose of National Real Estate Services Inc. negotiated the deal for Tenet. Bill Boyd, Linda Lee and Brendan Monaghan of Grubb & Ellis Co.'s downtown Los Angeles office represented The Alhambra.

"This is the largest San Gabriel Valley office lease negotiated this year," said Boyd, senior vice president at the company's downtown office. "The San Gabriel Valley office market is the strongest of the LA County submarkets."

The Valley currently has low vacancy rates and high absorption rates. But Boyd said "the problem the market will have next year and the year after is providing the same kind of space."

"If the market doesn't provide that kind of new space over the next two years, we're going to see spillover into adjacent markets," he said.

Boyd added, however, that another 250,000 square feet of office space is planned for The Alhambra.

Other companies with operations in The Alhambra include 1st Healthplan, The USC Keck School of Medicine, the County of Los Angeles, Department of Health Services, and China International Medical University.

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