ORTEC is one of the world’s largest providers of advanced planning and optimization solutions and services. ORTEC has over 1,650 customers worldwide, over 700 employees and offices in Europe, North America, South America and the Pacific Region.

ABOUT THE WINNING PROGRAM
ORTEC works with its implementing partner, North Star Alliance, to operate and maintain a network of Roadside Wellness Centers (RWCs) that provide preventive healthcare and treatment services to mobile populations, such as truck drivers, and corridor communities along Africa’s major transport routes. To support this, ORTEC developed the Corridor Medical Transfer System (COMETS), which securely stores, exchanges and monitors patient data across RWCs. COMETS facilitates the collection of site-specific health and demographic data that enables both continuity of care for patients and real-time monitoring of epidemiological trends at local, national and regional levels.

In 2012, 29 RWCs operating in 13 African countries provided over 200,000 individuals with counseling, testing and treatment services for HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, tuberculosis, malaria and general health needs. Each RWC is a shipping container converted into a clinic with prevention programs run by a peer educator on the left side and treatment services run by a clinician on the right side. RWCs are also linked to other local and national health services to ensure referrals for diagnoses requiring more sophisticated follow-up care.

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

HOLISTIC APPROACH
• ORTEC and North Star Alliance employ a combination approach comprising prevention, testing, treatment and care, as well as the promotion of health behavior change through educational workshops and peer counseling among mobile workers and corridor communities.

TARGETS AN IMPORTANT DISEASE VECTOR
• Providing cross-border, continuous access to care and preventive education where drivers congregate has the potential to improve the health of the African supply chain and reduce the spread of diseases throughout the region.
• Truckers can remain working while being treated for HIV/AIDS, TB and other illnesses. This flexibility, combined with the continuity of care, enhances adherence to treatment regimens.

STRONG PARTNER NETWORK
• ORTEC and North Star Alliance draw on the skills and resources of a wide network of over 70 public and private sector partners to foster local ownership and ensure diversified, sustainable funding. This includes SADC, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, TNT, Chevron and UNAIDS.