July 21, 2009 06:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

Next-Generation Hemostatic Dressing Available for Military Emergencies

HemCon offers Revolutionary, Easy to Use Z-Folded Design with Antibacterial Effectiveness

PORTLAND, Ore.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--HemCon Medical Technologies, Inc., today announced the launch of the ChitoGauze™ dressing platform. ChitoGauze is a next-generation, z-folded hemostatic chitosan dressing, designed for battlefield and acute care use and is proven effective on severe, arterial bleeding. The initial product design received FDA 510(k) clearance in April 2009 and is available immediately for the military medical market in a 4 inch by 4 yard flexible and conforming gauze dressing.

From the creators of the hemostatic HemCon® Bandages, saving lives on the battlefield since 2003, comes a uniquely formulated chitosan impregnated gauze dressing. Designed to offer the latest in battlefield care requirements, this hemostatic dressing is formed in a unique z-folded pleat making delivery from package to wound easier and quicker than with a rolled product. “The dynamic stresses of combat operations can create an environment that is often overwhelming for battlefield care providers. A product that is not only highly effective, but is also easily employed is paramount. A simple modification such as making your package easy to open, or a z-folded dressing rather than rolled, can save a medic precious time which translates to saving lives,” said former U.S. Army Medic Christopher Murphy, now of Wake Forest University. HemCon states that in addition to the z-fold, the dressing will ship by Fall 2009 with a packaging configuration that can be opened from any angle to offer easier, more rapid and sterile deployment. “Over our long and strong relationship with the U.S. Army, HemCon has teamed with military medical professionals to understand the latest field requirements and deliver what is needed. It’s our mission to continue to help keep our soldiers coming home. Through the launch of the ChitoGauze platform, we’re able to provide a critical, safe dressing that saves lives,” said Bill Block, President of HemCon, U.S. and former U.S. Army Ranger.

The unique formulation of hemostatic ChitoGauze also offers antibacterial properties which provide medical professionals a multi-layered solution to help avoid infection. “As a physician, there’s a great deal to consider when treating a wound – whether you are on the battlefield or in the ER. Having an antibacterial, protective layer provides an element of defense I want my patients to have,” said Sudip Bose, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, attending Emergency Physician and former Major, U.S. Army. In testing, ChitoGauze

demonstrated antibacterial properties against a wide range of microorganisms, including MRSA, VRE and *Acinetobacter Baumannii*.[1]

HemCon's proprietary manufacturing process and the natural, unique characteristics of chitosan together create the ChitoGauze mechanism of action which slows blood movement through the dressing, offering a local hemostatic solution. The chitosan in ChitoGauze, without the addition of pro-clotting agents, binds red blood cells and platelets on the dressing's surface which provides localized clotting, independently from the normal clotting cascade. Localized clotting mitigates risk of emboli formation which can be found through the use of pro-clotting agents.[2]

About HemCon Medical Technologies Inc.

HemCon Medical Technologies, Inc. is a leading global developer of advanced medical products designed to improve the standard of patient care. The company is responsible for developing the chitosan-based HemCon dressing used by thousands of military and civilian first responders and is changing wound care best practices in hospital, dental and clinical settings. In addition, HemCon is leading the charge to develop and license unique, life-saving medical advances, including Lyophilized Human Plasma and Nanospider™ technologies. HemCon is headquartered in Portland, Ore., with additional commercial operations in Ireland; England; Germany and the Czech Republic. For more information, please visit www.hemcon.com.

[1] *Data from the ChitoGauze FDA submission is available for review from HemCon Medical Technologies, Inc.*

[2] *Studies conducted by Prof. John Whitelock, University of New South Wales, in conjunction with an Australian ARC Linkage Grant.*

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