

INDUSTRY NEWS

EVENT MEDICAL'S INSPIRATION® VENTILATOR SYSTEM RECEIVES FDA CLEARANCE FOR ITS HELIOX DELIVERY SYSTEM



Aliso Viejo, CA, January 2008 – eVent Medical announces FDA 510K clearance for Heliox gas delivery by its Inspiration® ventilator system. Says Kirk Inoue, Chairman and CEO, "Heliox administration has been available on the Inspiration ventilator outside the U.S. since 2006, and we are now pleased to be able to provide this exciting new therapy to our U.S. customers."

There have been a number of peer-reviewed medical publications demonstrating the utility of eVent's Heliox delivery system on the Inspiration ventilator. Stephen Tunnell, President, states, "Researchers have found the Inspiration ventilator—with its patented, compact block design—greatly reduces the consumption of Heliox when compared to other currently marketed older ventilator designs." The Inspiration does not have a bleed system that can waste large amounts of the gas even before it is delivered to the patient.

Other studies have noted that the volume accuracy was maintained while using the sensor at the wye. "With its expanding U.S. and Canadian sales force, eVent Medical will begin marketing the Inspiration throughout the U.S. with a focus on the pediatric areas that have the highest need for Heliox with asthmatic patients," says Mike Browning, VP of U.S. and Canada Sales, "and this will complement our dedicated Infant platform for the neonatal population of low birth weight babies."

This new capability allows eVent Medical, a division of Kobayashi Medical America LLC, to further its mission of providing innovation and value to the clinical community. eVent Medical markets the Inspiration line of adult through neonatal ventilators with the most aggressive warranty and preventative maintenance programs in the industry—the Inspiration is truly recognized for its lowest cost of maintenance.



Vapotherm, the global leader in High Flow Oxygen Therapy products, announced that its President & CEO, Robert Storey earned Maryland's 2008 International Business Leadership Award from the World Trade Center Institute (WTCI). Storey was one of seven winners selected by the WTCI for exceptional business leadership, determination, and creative strategy in international business. The award will be presented to Storey at a ceremony at the American Visionary Arts Museum in Baltimore.

"It is particularly gratifying to have one's work recognized publicly by peers who understand how challenging it is to operate effectively in a global environment," said Storey. "However, this award is the result of a Corporate-wide effort by a management team that is second to none in our industry. That is the true story behind this honor".

Established in 1989, WTCI is the region's premier private sector international business partner. WTCI, financed jointly by area businesses and the State of Maryland, operates as a non-profit membership organization.



Sepracor Inc. and Nycomed announced an exclusive development, marketing and commercialization agreement for ciclesonide in the United States. Ciclesonide, Nycomed's proprietary corticosteroid, has a unique activation mechanism and is the active ingredient in ALVESCO HFA (hydrofluoroalkane) Inhalation Aerosol MDI (metered-dose inhaler) for the treatment of asthma and in OMNARIS AQ Nasal Spray for the treatment of allergic rhinitis. The broad ciclesonide franchise complements Sepracor's respiratory portfolio and further leverages the company's commercial infrastructure with both OMNARIS AQ and ALVESCO HFA projected to be launched in 2008.

Sepracor expects to launch OMNARIS AQ during the 2008 spring allergy season and ALVESCO HFA in the second half of 2008. Sepracor has obtained development rights to several line extensions, which have the potential to broaden the ciclesonide and current Sepracor respiratory franchises. These programs include OMNARIS HFA MDI, a Phase II candidate; ALVESCO inhalation solution, a preclinical candidate; and ALVESCO in combination with a long-acting beta-agonist, an early clinical candidate. Nycomed will receive an upfront payment of \$150 million and may become entitled to receive subsequent payments of up to \$280 million over the life of the agreement upon accomplishment of various development and sales milestones. Nycomed will also receive compensation for providing finished product, and royalties on sales of ciclesonide products.

SEQUAL TECHNOLOGIES INTRODUCES THE ECLIPSE 2



SeQual Technologies Inc., a San Diego-based medical equipment manufacturer which develops oxygen systems known worldwide for their reliability, quality, revolutionary design and economy is proud to announce the Eclipse 2 which brings several new and innovative advancements. The Eclipse 2 incorporates many suggestions from providers, as well as, patients and physicians.

"We are extremely pleased with the results," said Ron Richard, Senior VP of Sales and Marketing at SeQual Technologies Inc. "Listening to suggestions and adapting the Eclipse to the needs allows us to continually stay ahead of the market place."

In 2007, SeQual celebrated the first full year of Eclipse sales. Well over 10,000 Eclipse systems are now providing oxygen to patients in more than 60 countries. SeQual will continue to support the Eclipse 1 by providing the service and parts to keep the installed base running smoothly. They derive more satisfaction from patient recognition than from any of the numerous awards and accolades they received and they are dedicated to helping patients breathe easier and enjoy their lives to the fullest. "We are proud to partner in an effort to provide the best possible solutions in an ever-changing healthcare environment," said Pam Jackson, SeQual's Global Product Marketing Manager.

In the upcoming year, SeQual is dedicating a great deal of resources to educational support programs, including ones focused on the needs of the ambulatory patient. They have worked closely with the AARC to secure CEU credits for programs that cover a variety of topics related to LTOT patient.

Over these past few months, SeQual has added many new employees in Customer Service, Technical Support and Sales and Marketing to better support the industry. They are committed to improving the entire customer experience. "We won't stop until we are the best in the business," said Jim Bixby, CEO of SeQual Technologies Inc. For more information visit www.sequal.com.



Aerocrine, Inc. announced that NIOX MINO a hand-held point-of-care device for the measurement of airway inflammation, has been 510(k) cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Physicians in the U.S. now have a highly accurate, non-invasive and convenient technology that is appropriate for use in a doctor's office, ultimately helping them improve how they treat asthma patients.

NIOX MINO provides accurate, reproducible and immediate measurement of fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FENO), a validated method for assessing asthma-related airway inflammation. NIOX MINO is the first hand-held device to measure airway inflammation -- an underlying cause of inflammatory airway diseases -- helping physicians improve patient outcomes and reduce healthcare expenditures.

"NIOX MINO answers the need for a user friendly, non-invasive, accurate, and cost effective tool that enables any physician to monitor the underlying process of asthma-airway inflammation," said Peter B. Boggs, M.D., Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, LSU School of Medicine, Shreveport. "What is important about this is that the control of airway inflammation is the key to the successful management of asthma, and this tool makes this possible."