

NEWS FLASH

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K-One Making Its Mark In Medical Device Business

Since exiting the mobile phone accessories market in the EMS business in 2016, K-One has slowly but surely reached out to the medical/healthcare device market to fill up the void caused by the former. The COVID-19 pandemic provided the catalyst for K-One to boldly extend development and manufacturing of its own brand of medical devices with the dual objectives of combating COVID-19 and more importantly act as a base to grow this business post-pandemic for long-term sustainability.

Over the last few years, K-One has continuously added the manufacturing of new medical/healthcare devices into its portfolio such as infusion pumps, oral hygiene devices, vein scanners, healthcare wearables, pill planners, medical stands and medical consumables for its OEM/ODM customers. Armed with its engineering and medical devices knowledge, it managed to secure the prestigious licence from NASA-JPL to manufacture and distribute VITAL ventilators to be rebranded under its own brand name - MEDKAIRE worldwide.



Medkaire Ventilator (Technology licensed from NASA-JPL)

K-One is the only successful NASA-JPL ventilator licensee in Malaysia. Apart from the ventilator, the K-One design team has developed multiple variants of 3D printed swabs in-house which include oral swabs, nasopharyngeal swabs and cervical swabs. K-One has gotten 30 design combinations of these varieties of swabs approved by Medical Device Authority (MDA) of Malaysia to suit different market segment needs. These designs are being patented by K-One. The wide product range is expected to facilitate and enhance sales.



Various swab head design combinations for different market segment needs

In anticipation of the hyper-need for safety needles and syringes required for COVID-19 inoculation, K-One has been licensed by Star Syringe based in the United Kingdom to manufacture syringe safety needle caps (K4) on an exclusive basis in Malaysia for worldwide distribution on a non-exclusive basis. The goal is to get ready for the impending World Health Organization's (WHO) mandate which is expected to be implemented this year to make it compulsory for syringe needles to have safety needle caps to prevent needlestick injuries.

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Catching the COVID-19 pandemic-induced demand of syringes and syringe safety needle caps will be an added bonus.



K4 safety needle cap with syringe

Furthermore, K-One's medical devices own brand space has achieved a new milestone whereby its planned RM24 million investment expansion project in developing and manufacturing the NASA-JPL ventilator has been highlighted and endorsed by the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) in its Annual Media Conference held on 2 March 2021.

As the worldwide COVID-19 vaccine inoculation exercise advances, K-One's EMS business is expected to rebound in 2021 for both the medical/healthcare and non-healthcare business sectors and augmented by its own brand medical devices.



Malaysia Investment 2020 Performance Report

......Another approved investment was an expansion project to manufacture ventilators, medical consumables, pill planners/pill splitters, healthcare wearables, and oximeters by K One Resources Sdn. Bhd., a home-grown company. The investment worth RM24 million will generate 90 employment opportunities. K-One Resources has worked to meet the demand of ventilators by obtaining a Non-Exclusive License of the VITAL (Ventilator Intervention Technology Accessible Locally) ventilator from NASAJPL. VITAL has been approved by the US FDA under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), with K-One being the only successful licensee in Malaysia.

These and other world-class, high-technology projects will involve extensive R&D, technology transfer,

An excerpt from MIDA's Malaysia Investment Performance Report 2020

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