

BioProgress links up with Brunel University to produce a portable field toilet

Submitted by: Lothbury Financial

Thursday, 8 March 2001

BioProgress Technology International, Inc., today announces that its wholly owned subsidiary, Cambridge-based BioProgress Technology Limited, has reached an agreement with Brunel University Design for Life Centre, Adventure Designs in London, to develop a new type of field human waste disposal system.

Both organisations are working together to develop a new type of portable toilet suitable for use anywhere in the world. This unique design will enable trekkers, explorers, boat-owners, mountaineers and picnickers both disabled and able-bodied to take it wherever they go. BioProgress are also looking to develop a special bag or sack that can be used to contain the waste until it can be disposed of in an environmentally sound way.

BioProgress is gaining a world-wide reputation for its unique knowledge base of biodegradable, environmentally-friendly materials designed during its development of biodegradable nappies, feminine hygiene products and flushable biodegradable ostomy pouches. Adventure Designs is seeking to harness BioProgress's knowledge to ensure this project's success.

Brunel University's design department has a 5A star research rating, the highest attainable for design research in the UK. It has also won three Design Council Millennium Awards and has a substantial reputation in the design of equipment for adventure sport and outdoor activities, which can be used by disabled and able-bodied people. This new type of portable toilet can be easily carried and set up absolutely anywhere.

Disposal of human waste is becoming an increasingly worrying problem - particularly in environmentally sensitive areas. In America, where the problem is already causing concern, boat owners are being banned from flushing their chemically treated waste into the nation's waterways.

Gregory L Bowers, BioProgress' President, based in North Carolina, explained: "It is becoming a major issue in the US with boat owners on the various lakes and waterways in the National Parks no longer being allowed to use traditional chemical porta-potties and dispose of the waste overboard. Ducking behind the nearest bush or tree is also becoming unacceptable; which is why the Brunel University Design for Life Centre, Adventure Designs in London is working on the new type of portable toilet. By contrast the portable toilet under development can be easily carried and set up anywhere. They have joined forces with BioProgress Technology to come up with an environmentally friendly system that is easy to use for both disabled and able bodied people."

The Royal Geographical Society has already welcomed news of the joint venture for a specially designed portable toilet. Nigel de N Winsor, the Society's deputy director, said: "This is an exciting project and will help in the Society's objective of extending the opportunity to participate in

expeditions and outdoor activities as widely as possible, no matter what the physical disability, enhancing independence and the quality of life for all.”

Suresh Paul, a fellow of the Society and Project Manager on behalf of Adventure Designs said: “This project is particularly important as it addresses two issues; to design a new type of field toilet, which can be used by disabled people as well as able bodied people, thus encouraging disabled access to the outdoors. Secondly, providing a method of controlling and disposing of all the human waste material effectively in a manner which is sympathetic to even the most fragile ecosystems.”

Barry J Muncaster, BioProgress’ Chairman and Chief Executive, said: “We are delighted to be working with Design for Life and Brunel University with the support of the Royal Geographical Society to develop a new application for our disposable, biodegradable technologies. In common with other new products such as our flushable ostomy pouch, this project has the potential to improve the quality of people’s lives as well as having a positive impact on the environment.”

His view was endorsed by Graham Hind, BioProgress’ Managing Director, who said: “The technical knowledge acquired developing our disposable, biodegradable products, and particularly the flushable, biodegradable ostomy pouch, will be directly applicable to this project.” He continued: “All over the world in national parks and on recreational waterways in addition to the more exotic expedition locations there has been a huge increase in the number of visitors in recent years. These numbers are expected to grow in the future and disposal of the human waste produced by these visitors is becoming a major health and environmental issue. Traditional chemical solutions can further add to the environmental problems. There is a significant global commercial opportunity for new cost effective, well designed and environmentally friendly solution.”

Notes to Editors:

The company is dedicated to promoting its intellectual property in water-soluble and biodegradable films and processes for high volume mass-market products. The company focused on its proprietary XGel (TM) Film System.

The XGel Film System is the world’s first animal-free soft capsule process. This patented process eliminates the use of gelatin, a protein derived from animal renderings. Since the mid-1930s, gelatin has been the only material suitable for encapsulating non-aqueous products such as vitamin oils (dietary supplements), pharmaceuticals and cosmetic oils. The company believes its XGel Film System is a revolutionary step in eliminating animal by-products from ingestible products used to deliver pharmaceuticals and dietary supplements on a cost-effective basis compared to traditional methods.

BioProgress’ major customers include: The Boots Company Plc, J T Racing LLP, Nestle and Peter Black Healthcare.

The company continues to work with major international corporations engaged in pharmaceuticals, consumer durables and food products to determine the suitability of the XGel Film System to replace traditional encapsulation processes and, in some cases, to facilitate new product development not possible with

competitive technologies.

BioProgress is a fully reporting company having its ordinary shares quoted on the NASD OTC Bulletin Board (symbol BPRG). The company's web site can be viewed at <http://www.bioprogress.com>

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