

ACTIVAERO ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF REVOLUTIONARY CHILDREN SPACER

Gemünden, Germany, April 5, 2007 – German based Activaero GmbH announced the market launch of the Watchhaler®, a revolutionary new inhalation concept for children.

In Europe, an estimated 4.4 million children under the age of five suffer from asthma. The use of a Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) is the prevalent method of asthma drug delivery. To make the MDIs

suitable for children, asthma experts advocate the use of a holding chamber known as a spacer, into which the aerosol spray is released before it is inhaled by the child.



Activaero identified four key concerns common to spacers available on the market and created a multiple intellectual properties to solve these requirements. As the project has moved toward high volume manufacturing, RPC Formatec has been supporting Activaero in this project. The result is the Watchhaler, developed especially to suit the requirements of children and the supervising adults.

The first consideration was the aesthetic appearance of the device. Activaero recognized that children can be intimidated by the typically 'cold' and functional designs of spacers and strove to replace this with a more welcoming look, through the use of vivid colors and an animal-like shape.

The second challenge was to reduce the risk of giving an electrostatic charge to the spacer during handling, as the charge can attract the drug to the walls of the surface and reduce the time available for inhalation. Activaero's solution is a protective outer chamber around the aerosol balloon so that the balloon cannot be touched. The drug can now remain airborne within the balloon for over two minutes.

The third factor is to ensure a controlled, efficient delivery of the drug, something that Activaero believed was not possible with the face masks commonly supplied with spacers. Instead, the Watchhaler uses a mechanical valve at the air inlet, which reduces inhalation velocity to allow a slow, controlled delivery of the therapeutic aerosol.

The final innovation is that the balloon folds up during inhalation, providing parents with a clear means of identifying that the process has been successful.

“The concept behind Watchhaler is to *turn inhalation into child’s play*”, comments Dr. Gerhard Scheuch, CEO of Activaero. “Our developers have done a superb job to translate our pioneering concept into a highly functional inhalation device. We introduced this concept during the Annual Congress of the German Respiratory Society and found an enormous positive feedback by pediatric doctors.”

The Watchhaler is now available through pharmacies in Germany and through an online shop at www.watchhaler.de. Activaero is currently seeking qualified distributors in Europe and North America.

About Activaero

Activaero GmbH is a drug delivery company, specializing in highly efficient aerosol technology and inhalation systems. Activaero partners globally with leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to apply its inhalation platforms to pharmaceuticals that require critical dosage control. Activaero is privately held and has facilities in Germany (Munich and Gemuenden/Wohra) and in the USA (Activaero America, Inc., Dublin, Ohio.).

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