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health care products

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Healthmark Industries Introduces a Cool Solution to Uncomfortably Warm Work Environments

Fraser, MI, June 16, 2014 - On recent field visits with staff in the sterile processing and OR areas of various hospitals, staff revealed that one of the greatest challenge they face is being uncomfortably hot in their working environments. Shifts can be long and especially hot while wearing necessary PPE. With this in mind the Healthmark team worked to deliver a solution and is now pleased to be launching their line of Cool Aids cooling products, just in time for summer.

OSHA specifies that Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) standard at [1910.132\(d\)](#) requires every employer in general industry to conduct a hazard in the assessment to determine appropriate PPE to be used to protect employees from the hazards identified in the assessment.¹ Keeping cool underneath your PPE is important to the employees comfort so they can effectively perform their tasks.

Cool Aids are designed to manage your body temperature from the head, neck, and chest and core body. They are available in beanies, skull caps, neck wraps and vests. The combination of unique fabrics creates an evaporative temperature management system. Evaporation through the multi-layered material creates a cooling effect. It is the same technique the human body uses to cool itself. Its simple to activate, start by submerging in cool water for a minute or two allowing the material to absorb the water. Gently squeeze the remaining water from the Cool Aid, then apply to where you are wearing it. The products provide cool comfort for hours, and may be used multiple times. The vest is designed with cooling inserts that are refrigerated before each use. Cool Aids are easy to care for by hand washing in mild soap and air drying after each use. The vests are machine washable.

Wearing PPE gear is essential in the decontam of an Central Service Sterilization Department to stay protected from the containments you're working with. While in

constant motion, your body heat can make you very uncomfortable in hurry with you PPE gear on.

"It's amazing the immediate relief Cool Aids provide," one Sterile Processing Manager recently shared. "My team and I tried them out and were very satisfied with the results. I believe, improving comfort will improve performance."

Professionals working in the OR can be on their feet for extended hours in a high stress setting. The Cool Aids vest was designed with cooling inserts that are refrigerated before each use. They provide the perfect solution of extended cooling relief.

Further information about Cool Aids is available at hmark.com or by contacting Customer Service at 800-521-6224.

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatstress/standards.html>

About Healthmark Industries Co., Inc.

Since 1969, Healthmark Industries Company, Inc. has developed and marketed innovative solutions to aid healthcare facilities in their delivery of surgical instruments and other lifesaving medical devices to patients. Healthmark Industries mission is to continue to innovate, continue to support and continue to serve the healthcare provider industry and support services that make it possible to deliver quality healthcare. Visit www.hmark.com for more information.