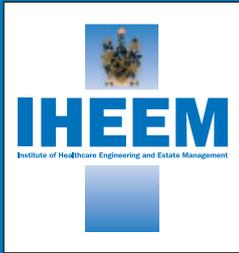


November 2005 Volume 59 Number 10



# Health Estate

JOURNAL OF THE INSTITUTE OF HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING AND ESTATE MANAGEMENT



**Spreading the word on infection control**  
**Insight into process steam issues**  
**Buildings: tuning in to the way ahead**



International Federation of Hospital Engineering Edition

# Clinically proven showerhead filter

Pall Medical has launched its clinically proven AQF3 Pall-Aquasafe disposable showerhead filter for the complete removal of waterborne bacteria, protozoa and fungal spores at the point of use (POU). This means hospitals can now provide high risk patients such as those on bone marrow, transplant, oncology, neonatology, burns and haematology units, with instant protection against waterborne infection.

Patients are therefore far less at risk of acquiring nosocomial (hospital-acquired) waterborne infections such as *Pseudomonas* spp, *Aspergillus* spp,

*Cryptosporidium* spp and *Legionella* spp.

The new filter is easy to fit by attaching directly onto existing showers and builds on the success of the recently launched AQL3 for *Legionella* control.

To best protect immunocompromised patients, this new filter should be used in conjunction with existing water treatment management programmes. The filter is a sterile CE marked device with a unique 0.2 micron sterilising-grade membrane, which has a double layer to maximise bacterial retention. The devices have been validated to strict protocols using *Brevundimonas diminuta*



and been independently proven to remove waterborne bacteria at the point of use for up to 14 days.

## Aid-Call looks to the future

Chris Booker, the recently appointed CEO for Aid-Call, has outlined his plans for building on the success of the company. "Great customer service and product innovation are the keys to taking this leader in radio nurse call systems for the care community forward," he commented.

Chris Booker has set about implementing his plans for Aid-Call, which includes establishing strategic partnerships to provide top class installation and maintenance services to the company's UK customers. "We will work with partners who want to be the best in their field in looking after our customers' needs and are about to

announce a tie-up with a company with a track record of success in electronic systems for care applications," he said.

In addition, his vision for Aid-Call is to provide complete wireless solutions for emergency and security in healthcare. To this end, the company will be continuing its investment in innovative wireless solutions with the launch of a unique cordless system and an enhanced range of low-cost pagers and a more flexible maintenance service.

For the future, a new range of nurse call platforms and fire systems are planned, along with other assistive technology aimed at delivering higher standards of care more cost effectively.

## Advanced power protection

Socomec Sicon UPS systems have been chosen to provide full power protection for the Hammersmith Hospital NHS Trust. Eta Projects was commissioned by the Trust to undertake a risk assessment of each of its sites and implement essential upgrade works to meet the expanding and critical demand of its IT infrastructure. Eta commissioned the advanced Delphys DS system, which has the benefits of a small footprint, extremely low harmonic re-injection and IGBT technology.

The Socomec Sicon UPS system specified comprises 2 x 120 kVA Delphys DS UPS systems, which are 12-pulse, double conversion, true on-line technology and are rated for a "Crest Factor" of 3-1 minimum. The system is complete with two dedicated power distribution units (PDUs) and remote SNMP alarm monitoring.

## Warranty first for handheld ultrasound

SonoSite has announced the introduction of a five-year warranty to customers purchasing its recently introduced MicroMaxx handheld ultrasound system. The multi-year warranty is a first in the ultrasound industry.

Graham Cox, SonoSite vice president, international, commented: "This warranty underscores our confidence in the durability of our advanced imaging system based on its highly integrated microchip technology as well as the track record established by our previous generation systems."

The company's five-year warranty



applies to the MicroMaxx system itself and transducers for most clinical applications.

## Benchtop decontamination

Lancer has launched an underbench/benchtop washer-disinfector to deliver high quality decontamination (with independent validation) of re-usable instruments, medical devices and equipment to critical environments.

The new Lancer 820LX MD meets the rigorous requirements of HTM 2030, in particular the need for independent verification of all critical process parameters.