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Intelliguard™ RFID Solutions for Critical Inventory by MEPS Real-Time, Inc.

MEPS Real-Time's Intelliguard solution for managing high-value, critical-dose medications helps to: reduce costs through inventory management of expiration dates, NDCs and lot numbers; increase pharmacy and nursing staff efficiency; and improve patient safety through medication error prevention.

CEO: Shariq Hussain
Founded: 2006
Employees: <25
Stock Symbol: Private Company
Phone: (760) 448-9500
Fax: (760) 448-9599
Address: 2841 Loker Avenue East
 Carlsbad, CA 92010
Website: www.mepsrealtime.com



Company Background

Like so many great American corporate stories, the core intellectual property of MEPS Real-Time was developed in 2001... in an airport... on a napkin. Seriously.

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology was the ultimate technology to develop a **Medication Error Prevention System** with increased visibility of inventory... MEPS Real-Time was conceived that day.

To say it was a commitment from our investors to get from 2001 to today would be an understatement.

The RFID industry was just evolving. There were no standards. In 2004, there was a brief thought that Wal-Mart would move the industry forward. But, their suppliers rejected the technology advancement. And so, the RFID industry languished. But, MEPS Real-Time didn't stand still and our investors didn't withdraw support. We learned and they stayed committed.

From 2001-2003, our early systems were based on passive 13.56 MHz high-frequency (HF) RFID tags. These tags operated well when affixed to packages of liquid medicines, however, only 30 to 40 HF tags could be reliably read when attached to drug products and stored in close proximity to each other inside the cabinet and this did not meet our requirements.

From 2004-2006, we then tested passive tags operating at 2.45 GHz, which functioned well during a hospital pilot test at MD Anderson Cancer Center. However, the 2.45 GHz tags utilized proprietary, soon to be obsolete, technology and we wanted to offer only standardized hardware.

The technology was spun-off from Safety Syringes, Inc. in 2006 and MEPS Real-Time, Inc. was incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of Howard Energy.

We redeveloped our system, in 2008, to utilize EPC Gen 2/ISO 18000-6c ultra-high frequency (UHF) tags and readers because the hardware is standardized and the tags can be read reliably and in required quantities — approximately 100 tags per drawer — an Intelliguard™ Automated Dispensing Cabinet (ADC) can have as many as eight drawers.

In 2009, we began the critical task of bringing together the right team to lead MEPS Real-Time into the future.

A pilot project with Sharp Memorial Hospital was initiated in 2010 to manage the expiration dates of high-cost, slow-moving inventory. Previously, this was a labor intensive, time-consuming, critical task... a perfect opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities of RFID and Intelliguard.

Today, Intelliguard is positioned as “RFID Solutions for Critical Inventory.” We hope you'll be a part of our future.

Product Overview

Someone can live or die depending on the correct medications being dispensed. Hospitals and medical professionals clearly agree leveraging RFID technology for better tracking of a drug's expiration date, information about the drug administered, tracking and updating inventory levels, all performed with REAL-TIME visibility, would increase efficiency, reduce costs, and improve patient safety.

Features & Options

- State-of-the-Art RFID Technology
 - Maximizes patient safety in medication dispensing and delivery, and provides real-time visibility to product inventory while eliminating item-level scanning and counting.
 - Maximizes hospital workflow and nursing efficiency.
- Multiple-location Systems and Management
 - Track products and medication from the pharmacy, to the nursing unit, and finally to the patient bedside.
- PC-based and HL7 Compliant Software
 - Seamlessly integrates with existing medication dispensing, supply management systems, and hospital IT infrastructure.
- ePedigree Compliant
 - RFID technology assures serialization capability to meet unit-level electronic tracking and tracing requirements included in upcoming state legislation and potential federal legislation.
- Supply Chain Support
 - Auto Replenishment: Expiration Date, Lot # and NDC Inventory Control
 - Ultimate solution for anti-counterfeiting, anti-diversion, and brand management.
- EPC Gen2 Passive UHF Tags and Labels
 - A low-cost technology with global standards

Product Specifications

Intelliguard Pharmacy Reader: Touch screen interface; small, table-top design eliminates item-level scanning or counting by reading RFID tags within a tote or container.

Intelliguard Automated Dispensing Cabinet: Touch screen interface; 4-8 single and double drawer configurations with ambient and cold drawer options.

Intelliguard Patient Bedside Reader: Touch screen interface; medication tray and handheld reader for patient ID bands (barcode or RFID).

Testimonial

“It has always been my intention to have a system that can reduce expensive medications from expiring, unused. Intelliguard is that system.”

— S. John Johnson, Pharm.D., Director of Pharmacy,
 Sharp Memorial Hospital, San Diego, CA