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## HemCon Expands ChitoFlex® Product Line

*Battle-Tested Dressing Available to Medical Professionals in New 1"x3" and 3"x9" Sizes*

**PORTLAND, Ore. – Feb. 12, 2008** – HemCon Medical Technologies Inc., makers of the HemCon® Bandage, today announced the availability of its life-saving hemorrhage control dressing, ChitoFlex, to acute care professionals in two new, smaller sizes, 1"x 3" and 3"x 9" strips. HemCon's decision to expand the ChitoFlex product line is a direct result of feedback from medical professionals who desired additional product flexibility for varying wound sizes. The original ChitoFlex dressing, which comes in a roll and measures 3" x 28", will remain available for purchase.

A two-sided, stuffable wound dressings, the ChitoFlex family of products is made from chitosan, a natural substance found in shrimp shells. The shrimp shells are processed, chemically treated, made into bandage form and then sterilized.

ChitoFlex dressings control severe bleeding within two to five minutes by becoming extremely adherent when in contact with blood. The adhesive-like action seals the wound and attracts red blood cells to the dressing, forming a seal that stops hemorrhaging independent of the body's natural clotting process. The dressings are antibacterial and effective on high-pressure, high-flow arterial bleeds and offer a more effective wound care solution than traditional hemorrhage control products. ChitoFlex was originally designed for use by the U.S. military on the battlefields of Afghanistan and Iraq to support the needs of military medics who treat penetrating injuries, such as those resulting from arms fire or shrapnel. The original dressing was launched in acute care settings in August 2007.

"Working with our customers, we recognized the need for additional sizes to address specific health care issues," said John W. Morgan, president and CEO of HemCon. "The introduction of the two new ChitoFlex sizes make the product more accessible for acute care needs and is part of our commitment to improving the standard of care offered in acute care facilities."

ChitoFlex dressings are designed for external use in hard-to-reach and narrow wound tracks, which make it a useful tool for emergency departments and trauma centers treating a variety of injuries. For example, the 3" x 9" ChitoFlex strip is useful for gunshot wounds and large lacerations, whereas smaller puncture wounds and epistaxis (nose bleeds) call for the smaller 1" x 3" strip. ChitoFlex provides medical professionals with a quick-acting, natural, localized and effective solution.

"In the emergency department, I have used the HemCon Bandage when conventional means have failed," said Dr. Richard Schwartz, who practices at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Ga. "A few weeks ago I had a patient with a large lingual tumor and trismus (about 1cm). The tumor was bleeding quite briskly, and we could not get to it. I put a HemCon Bandage (1" x 3") into the patient's mouth over the bleeding tumor. I put some slight pressure on it and got control of the bleeding."

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Dr. Schwartz continues, "It has also been very helpful in patients who are anticoagulated."

Intended for temporary use, ChitoFlex can be cut or folded to fit a wound without reducing effectiveness and should be removed after 48 hours.

HemCon dressings are available to medical professionals through a variety of distribution partners. The 1" x 3" ChitoFlex strip is CE marked and available in Europe. In the U.S. HemCon products are available to hospitals and surgery centers exclusively through Cardinal Health. To order through Cardinal or for more information on distributors, please call (503) 245-0459 or e-mail [sales@hemcon.com](mailto:sales@hemcon.com).

**About HemCon Medical Technologies Inc.**

HemCon Medical Technologies Inc., founded in 2001, develops, manufactures, and markets innovative technologies to control bleeding and infection resulting from trauma or surgery. HemCon products are designed for use by military and civilian first responders as well as medical professionals in hospital, dental and clinical settings where rapid control of bleeding is of critical importance. The HemCon® Bandage was developed in collaboration with the Oregon Medical Laser Center and Providence St. Vincent's Hospital. HemCon's manufacturing and corporate headquarters are located in Portland, Ore. For more information, please visit [www.hemcon.com](http://www.hemcon.com).

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