

Over 1.5 Million Clear Image Singles Sold, Over 1.5 Million Patients Protected

Clear Image Singles Lead the Way to a *New Standard of Care*

Bellingham, WA (Sonotech, Inc.) March 17, 2008—Clear Image Singles are becoming the *New Standard of Care* in efforts to eliminate patient cross-contamination from gel bottles. Over 50% of the top hospitals making the U.S News World Report 2007 Honor Roll www.health.usnews.com/besthospitals use Clear Image Singles.

Clear Image Singles are unit dose ultrasound scanning gel packets designed specifically to eliminate cross-contamination from refilled gel bottles.

According to information compiled by the Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths (RID), www.hospitalinfection.org there are two million hospital acquired infections per year. With concerns over Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) on the rise, the need to eliminate patient cross contamination is amplified. Clear Image Singles reduce the potential for patient contamination through ultrasound gel. Kathy Batiuk, Lead Sonographer at the University of Washington Medical Center, asserts, "Clear Image Singles are a convenient way to reduce the spread of infection, are easy to use, and are great for high risk areas such as ICU and neonatal ICU."

Susan Rimmer, Assistant Supervisor of the Adult Echo Lab at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, agrees: "In a world of increasing occurrence of medication resistant infections, all initiatives to limit exposure and spread of these organisms are important to the health of the patients seeking our care. It is comforting to know that the use of Clear Image Singles is an easy step in limiting exposure to undesirable organisms."

Current practice in many facilities is to purchase ultrasound scanning gel in re-usable squeeze bottles or in a bulk container and fill bottles. Filled bottles are used on multiple patients and discarded or washed and refilled when emptied. Several published studies document contamination of ultrasound scanning gel linking patient outbreaks to contaminated ultrasound gel bottles.

A study, *Are therapeutic ultrasound units a potential vector for nosocomial infection?*, conducted by Siobhan Schabrun, at the School of Health Sciences, University of South Australia, concluded that "Ultrasound gels harbor large numbers of potentially pathogenic organisms."

High Viscosity Clear Image Singles are available in 15 ml and 30ml unit dose packets; Low Viscosity Clear Image Singles are available in 30 ml single unit dose packets. Visit www.clearimagesingles.com for more product information or sample requests.

About Sonotech

Sonotech, Inc. is a medical and nondestructive testing ultrasound couplant developer, manufacturer and worldwide distributor. The company, founded in 1987, stresses innovation and is committed to research and product development in diagnostic ultrasound imaging while upholding high patient safety product values.

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