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## **Hydro Systems ICS 8900 Ideal for Incarceration Industry**

*Battery-powered, portable cleaning unit increases efficiency of restroom cleaning*

**CINCINNATI, OH**—Considered to have been eradicated in the years after World War II thanks to the widespread use of antibiotics such as penicillin, the *Staphylococcus aureus* infection (or staph infection) has been making a comeback in recent years. According to a study released by *The Journal of the American Medical Association* in October 2007, as well as the medical community in general, this is due to more and more staph infections developing a resistance to penicillin and the other antibiotics that are used to treat them.

*Staphylococcus aureus* is a common bacterium that often resides on the skin and in the nose. It can cause an infection when it enters an open wound, such as a cut or scrape. Instead of spreading across the body, staph infections tend to penetrate deeply into the body and, if not treated properly, can attack vital organs, sometimes leading to death. An increasingly virulent strain of staph infection is Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), which prevents antibiotics like Methicillin from killing it.

“This indicates these life-threatening MRSA infections are much more common than we had thought,” said Scott Fridkin, a medical epidemiologist for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in a response to the *JAMA* report that appeared in *The Washington Post*. “This is a significant public-health problem. We should be very worried.”

Staph infections tend to strike in facilities where large numbers of people gather on a regular basis and the sanitation of public areas like restrooms is an ongoing challenge for administrators, places like jails, prisons, hospitals, schools and nursing homes. In fact, a MRSA infection has been cited as a possible cause of death in a recent case in a Florida jail. Though the primary measure for preventing the spread of staph infections—thorough hand washing—is a simple one, ensuring that the sanitation level of restrooms and other public areas, especially in the incarceration industry, achieves required levels can be problematic.

With that in mind, Hydro Systems Co., the leading independent manufacturer of proportioning, dosing and dispensing systems for concentrated chemicals, and an industry leader in automatic/touch-free cleaning systems for daily cleaning applications, has created the ICS 8900, the latest in its line of mobile integrated cleaning systems and the best-in-class solution for touch-free cleaning of restrooms, locker/shower rooms etc.

The ICS 8900 is an affordable, battery-powered, self-contained portable-cleaning system that uses correctly dosed cleaning chemicals that are applied by spray nozzle using low-flow/low-pressure technology. With the ICS 8900, the chemicals do the cleaning, not high pressure.

The 8900 generates less than 100 psi, which protects fixtures and grout from water damage, reduces the risk of the user inhaling atomized bacteria, and eliminates the spray-back of bacteria-contaminated water, all of which may occur with high-pressure (500+ psi) cleaning systems. This design also reduces physical stress on the user by eliminating the stooping, bending and scrubbing

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involved in traditional cleaning processes. There is also none of the unpleasant "hands on" cleaning that can often lead to ineffective cleaning practices, lowered employee morale, increased employee turnover and associated training costs.

The ICS 8900's unique-low flow design uses only half-a-gallon of cleaning solution per minute, eliminating the need for wet/dry-vac recovery and the handling of contaminated water, while at the same time reducing the slip-and-fall risk. Utilizing Hydro Systems' proven select-valve technology, cleaning and sanitizing chemicals are correctly dosed every time, effectively and consistently killing germs and toxins, particularly in hard-to-reach and often-overlooked areas. In addition, the ICS 8900 cleans faster. In fact, ISSA 447 Cleaning Times show that the use of touchless cleaning technology can reduce fixture-cleaning time by as much as 67%.

The ICS 8900 is kind to the environment, with 50% less water and chemicals used when compared with many other automated cleaning systems. The ICS 8900 operates on a rechargeable, maintenance-free 12V lead-acid battery, allowing the user to clean anywhere, regardless of power-outlet availability. It also has an on-board battery charger and battery-life indicator. The compact design and simple operation of the ICS 8900 eliminates complicated and time-consuming setup and breakdown, and its virtually silent operation also means the user can clean at any time, making it easier to manage daily cleaning schedules.

Operation is as simple as filling the unit's 12-gallon water tank, using the selector valve to choose any of up to four different chemicals to be dispensed, and applying the cleaning solution with the low-flow/low-pressure spray nozzle. After cleaning, the solution is rinsed away with water from the spray nozzle. Any remaining liquid can be maneuvered into a floor drain with a squeegee or mopped dry. An optional foaming nozzle is available to clean vertical surfaces where chemicals need longer dwell time to deliver maximum cleaning effectiveness. This is ideal for shower and locker-room applications.

**For more information on the ICS 8900 or any other Hydro Systems proportioning, dosing or dispensing solutions, please contact Chris Torry, ICS Sales Manager, at (513) 271-8800 or visit [www.hydrosystemsco.com](http://www.hydrosystemsco.com).**

*Hydro Systems Co., founded in 1963, is the world's largest independent manufacturer of proportioning, dosing and dispensing systems for concentrated chemicals, serving the janitorial, institutional, foodservice, commercial cleaning, industrial and automotive-care markets. All of Hydro Systems' proportioning, dosing, foaming and dispensing systems meet International Plumbing Code (IPC), Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) and American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) 1055: Performance Requirements for Chemical Dispensers regulatory standards and codes. Headquartered in Cincinnati, OH, Hydro Systems also maintains international offices in the United Kingdom, Brazil, Australia and China. For more information, please visit [www.hydrosystemsco.com](http://www.hydrosystemsco.com).*

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