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Vexos to manufacture 10,000 ventilators for Canadian COVID-19 patients

MAY 28, 2020 BY **NANCY CROTTI**



The MVM ventilator, which Vexos will manufacture for COVID-19 patients in Canada. (Image from Vexos)

Electronics manufacturer **Vexos** said this week that it has signed an agreement with the government of Canada to manufacture 10,000 mechanical ventilators for COVID-19 patients in that country.

The LaGrange, Ohio-based company said it will build the ventilators, known as Mechanical Ventilator Milano (MVM), under an exclusive license agreement with Elemaster Group for the Americas. Vexos said it is also working closely with JMP Solutions, a London, Ontario company that specializes in industrial robotics, control systems, and systems automation in the manufacture of the ventilator.

The MVM ventilator was developed by the [International MVM Group](#) as a simple but powerful ventilator designed to address the specific needs for the care and recovery of severely affected COVID-19 patients. The group was formed by an international consortium of Italian, U.S. and Canadian physicists, engineers and companies organized in early March 2020 to bring the MVM ventilator from project initiation to FDA emergency use authorization within 6 weeks. The Canadian arm of the International MVM Group is led by Queen's University professor emeritus [Art McDonald](#), a co-recipient of the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics.

The ventilator will undergo Health Canada review for interim approval and deliveries of units are expected to begin in July, according to Vexos, which has a plant in Markham, Ontario.

"We are extremely honored to be working with an international group of innovators who were able to design and develop the MVM Ventilator in a very short timeframe. The order from the Government of Canada is a testament to not only international collaboration, but also collaboration within Canada between governmental, institutional and business entities focused on delivering rapid solutions in national mobilization efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic," [said](#) Vexos president & CEO Paul Jona in a news release. "During these challenging times, it's important that we contribute where we can to assist our communities."

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- > [J&J exec denies pressure to rush COVID-19 vaccine](#)

FROM MEDICAL DESIGN & OUTSOURCING

- > [Neocis raises \\$72M for Yomi robotic dental implant aid](#)

Neocis announced this week that it has raised \$72 million in Series D financing to continue developing its Yomi robotic system for assisting dental implant surgery. Alon Mozes and Juan Salcedo founded Neocis in 2009, bringing more than 20 years of surgical robotics experience, including at MAKO Surgical. The Miami-based company claims that Yomi is... [..]

- > [DTW Podcast: Smith+Nephew's Ortho president, Rhaeos' big win and Medtronic's legacy](#)

In this week's DeviceTalks Weekly Podcast, our opening and closing keynote interviews focus on executives from companies at very different stages. Manufacturing and sourcing Skip Kiil took the helm of Smith+Nephew's (NYSE:SNN) global orthopedics business to transform it. The company's recent acquisition of Integra LifeSciences' (NSDQ:IART) extremities business will further that mission. In our closing keynote conversation, Kiil updates... [..]

- > [Ambu, Xenecor ink purchasing deals for for single-use scopes](#)

Ambu and Xenecor over the past week each announced agreements with U.S. healthcare purchasing groups involving single-use scopes. Ambu said on October 7 that it won a national single-use endoscopy contract in the single-use endoscope category of a "major U.S. group-purchasing organization." The deal enables Ambu to serve a fifth of the acute care hospitals in the United... [..]

- > [Olympus gains 510\(k\) clearance for colonoscopes](#)

Olympus (TYO:7733) announced that it has received FDA 510(k) clearance for its PCF-H190T and PCF-HQ190 colonoscopes. Center Valley, Pa.-based Olympus' two newly cleared colonoscopes provide an extension to the existing capabilities of physicians to diagnose and treat disorders of the gastrointestinal tract, according to a news release. Get the full story at our sister site, MassDevice. [..]

- > [Steris to acquire Key Surgical for \\$850M](#)

Steris (NYSE:STE) announced this week that it has agreed to buy Key Surgical, a manufacturer of disposable hospital and surgical products, for \$850 million. Mentor, Ohio-based Steris said it expects that the acquisition will qualify for a tax benefit related to tax-deductible goodwill, effectively reducing the purchase price to approximately \$810 million. Key Surgical, a portfolio... [..]

- > [Bringing strep tests into the home in the new telehealth era](#)

Telehealth is having its moment as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Patty Post, founder and CEO of Checkable Medical, is developing at-home strep and COVID-19 tests. Patty Post found herself sitting at her third doctor's office visit in a week. Two of her kids were diagnosed with strep throat a few days earlier. When her third... [..]

- > [How Medtronic's new diversity leader wants to make the company even better](#)

Dr. Sally Saba joined Medtronic in March after leading a transformation at a major healthcare provider. Sally Saba knows what it's like to be unwanted because of her gender. Saba's mother

rejected her at birth because she wasn't a boy, leaving her to live with relatives in Egypt. When her caregiver decided to marry, she... [...]

> [AI could boost Edwards' critical care business](#)

Critical care comprises nearly 20% of Edwards' revenue. Its continued growth is connected to the prominence of the company's heart valve business. Katie Szyman spent 23 years building her reputation as a leader at Medtronic, a giant in the Medtech industry, but a patient-focused outlook became a driving force behind a change for her. Wanting to... [...]

> [How Boston Scientific can help close the gap in healthcare](#)

HR VP Camille Chang Gilmore explains why the medtech giant is using data to shine light on healthcare inequality. One of Camille Chang Gilmore's proudest moments at Boston Scientific came earlier this year. Two days after the killing of George Floyd, CEO Michael Mahoney and the executive team issued a letter that not only condemned... [...]

> [J&J exec denies pressure to rush COVID-19 vaccine](#)

Johnson & Johnson's (NYSE:JNJ) chief scientific officer said today that the first doses of his company's COVID-19 vaccine could be available for frontline healthcare workers in January or February, but added the company isn't rushing it. If granted an emergency use authorization by the FDA, that's the earliest Dr. Paul Stoffels said the single-dose vaccine developed... [...]

> [NIH announces more than \\$98M in contracts for new COVID-19 testing tech](#)

The National Institutes of Health today announced six new contracts worth \$98.35 million for COVID-19 testing approaches that provide new modes of sample collection, processing and return of results. NIH awarded the contracts in collaboration with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) as part of the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx) initiative. They... [...]

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