

OTHERS Manufacturing Of Nasal Swabs Designed For Use With COVID-19 Test Kits By 3D Printing

K-ONE TECHNOLOGY BERHAD

Type	Announcement
Subject	OTHERS
Description	Manufacturing Of Nasal Swabs Designed For Use With COVID-19 Test Kits By 3D Printing

We refer to the Company's announcements dated 6 & 12 May 2020, 16 June 2020 and 3 September 2020 respectively pertaining to the manufacturing of Nasal Swabs for use in COVID-19 testing by 3D printing.

The Board of Directors of K-One Technology Berhad ("K-One Tech" or "Company" or "K-One Group") wishes to announce that the K-One Group's wholly owned subsidiary, K-One MediTech Sdn. Bhd. (fka K-One Resources Sdn Bhd) has extended the range of swabs to include Oral Swabs which are used with specific COVID-19 test kits which make use of saliva specimen from deep within the throat for testing. In this regard, the K-One Group wishes to inform that it has on 17 December 2020 received the approval from the Medical Device Authority of Malaysia (MDA) to manufacture and supply the above Oral Swabs in Malaysia. The mass production is in place.

To recap, the Nasal Swab was approved by MDA on 3 September 2020. Following market studies, the K-One Group has submitted to MDA for approval additional variants of the Nasal Swab which differ in head designs, applicator lengths and break points to suit different market segment requirements. As illustrations, the Nasal Swab to collect fluid specimen for children requires a smaller head diameter, shorter applicator length and correspondingly shorter break point for improved comfort. To cater to different nasal geometries of Asian and Caucasian adults, in general, the head diameter, applicator length and break point for the former should have smaller dimensions while those for the latter should be bigger to meet individual needs for increased effectiveness and minimize distress. Upon approvals by MDA, the K-One Group will be able to offer a wide range of Nasal Swabs to suit different market needs.

With both Nasal Swabs and Oral Swabs of varying designs, applicator lengths and break points totalling 30 design combinations as product lines, the K-One Group expects to better meet the swab needs of the 2 different types of COVID-19 test kits of either requiring nasal or oral specimens and also the differing specification requirements of adults and children. The wide product range is expected to facilitate and boost sales.

The K-One Group wishes to further update that it has filed for patents the various designs of both the Nasal Swabs and Oral Swabs. The patents filing and subsequent registration of these intellectual property rights (IPRs) would enhance its intangible assets. Furthermore, it would enable the K-One Group to stamp its mark as a medical device innovator which is a key milestone in stepping out of its electronic manufacturing service (EMS) provider status.

The K-One Group has engaged local distributors to sell to public and private hospitals and test laboratories in Malaysia. It is continuously reaching out to targeted overseas markets that have potential high demand for Nasal and Oral Swabs due to the current escalating COVID-19 infections. These include India, Indonesia, Philippines, Brazil, Spain, UK and US subject to the necessary approvals of the health authorities as appropriate in the respective countries. The 3D printed swabs are competitive and effective as compared to the conventional injection moulded swabs.

The said Nasal and Oral Swabs are medical devices used to collect fluid specimen from the back of the nasal cavity and inner throat respectively for COVID-19 testing. However, they can also be used during normal times to test for other illnesses such as influenza, which thereby make them long term business even with the abatement of COVID-19 which in the Board's opinion may prevail for at least one more year despite the recent launch of the COVID-19 vaccine. Besides, it has also designed swabs ready for production for applications other than for COVID-19 purposes.

This announcement is dated 21 December 2020.

 Announcement Info	
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