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Itronics Begins Selling Advanced Silver Recycling Technology for Medical X-ray and Photo Processing Laboratories

RENO, Nev., Feb. 4 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Itronics Inc. (BULLETIN BOARD: ITRO) today reported that its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., has designed and is now selling a compact, fully automated dual chamber vacuum photochemical concentrator for use by medical x-ray and consumer photoprocessing laboratories.

The new dual chamber, advanced low-temperature vacuum distillation unit design produces separate silver-bearing developer and fixer chemical concentrates, a key requirement for 100 percent "Beneficial Use Recycling" of these liquid chemicals into Itronics Metallurgical's successful line of earth friendly GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizers.

"The vacuum photochemical concentration units are third generation vacuum distillation machines capable of removing more than 80 percent of the water from used photochemical solutions," said Dr. John W. Whitney, Itronics President. "The recovered water is pure and can be reused." The photodeveloper and photofixer concentrates, which capture 100 percent of the silver, are shipped to Itronics Metallurgical's process plant in Reno, Nevada for silver and other heavy metal removal and conversion into base products for use in manufacturing GOLD'n GRO fertilizers.

The design of this photochemical concentrator expands Itronics Metallurgical's "Beneficial Use Photochemical and Water Recycling" services to U.S. medical x-ray and photoprocessing laboratories. The Itronics Metallurgical "Beneficial Use Photochemical and Water Recycling" technology, which is now fully commercial, makes it possible to recover 100 percent of the silver and to beneficially recycle 100 percent of the liquid photochemical waste stream and represents a major environmental technology achievement.

This compact, user friendly, dual chamber design is sized to be attractive to medical x-ray and consumer photoprocessing laboratories. Traditional operating practice in most photoprocessing laboratories is to blend the two liquid photochemical streams prior to storage for disposal. These units provide convenient separation of the chemicals, reduce the volume of material that needs to be shipped for processing by more than 80 percent, make it possible to recycle the water at the processing location, and capture 100 percent of the contained silver.

Itronics, through its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., is the only company in the world with the technology to extract 100 percent of the silver and virtually all the other toxic heavy metals from photowaste and to convert the resulting liquid into environmentally beneficial, chelated, multinutrient liquid fertilizer products sold under the trademark GOLD'n GRO. These earth friendly liquid fertilizers, which can also be used for lawns and houseplants, and the popular Silver Nevada Miner bars, a souvenir of the Silver State, are available through the Company's "e-store" at http://www.itronics.com/ .

Itronics Inc. is one of Nevada's leading process technology development companies and a world leader in photochemical recycling. Headquartered in Reno, Nevada, it specializes in recycling technology development, photobyproduct recycling, silver refining, and technical services for the mining and recycling industries. Dr. John Whitney, Itronics President, was selected as Nevada's Inventor of the Year for 2000 and is a member of the Inventor's Hall of Fame at the University of Nevada, Reno. Itronics was one of five finalists for the 2001 Kirkpatrick Chemical Engineering Award, the most prestigious award in the chemical process industries worldwide.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: http://www.itronics.com/

(The statements in this news release that are not historical facts or statements of current status are forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve risk and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially.)

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