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Itronics Supplies Photochemical Concentrators to Defense Department for 'Beneficial Use Photochemical and Water Recycling' on U.S. Naval Ships

RENO, Nev., Sept. 11 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Itronics Inc. (BULLETIN BOARD: ITRO) reported today that its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., has developed an improved photochemical concentrator for shipboard use. The unit is sturdier, more compact, and more corrosion resistant than the photochemical concentrators previously developed for the U.S. Department of Defense for land based use. Two of these units are complete and the sale will be reported in Itronics third quarter results.

"Development of these shipboard units is another significant step in providing the 'Beneficial Use Photochemical and Water Recycling Services' to the entire U.S. military," said Dr. John Whitney, Itronics President. "The photochemical concentrators are capable of concentrating used photochemicals by 80 to 95 percent, thereby reducing on board accumulation of hazardous waste. The recovered water is pure enough to be used to make up new photographic fixer solutions, allowing for a reduction in shipboard water use."

The photofixer and photodeveloper concentrates which are produced contain 100 percent of the silver generated by the photographic usage. The concentrates are shipped to Itronics Metallurgical's manufacturing plant in Reno, Nevada for silver and other heavy metal removal and conversion for use in manufacturing the Company's GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizers.

"The development and sale of photochemical concentrators for the Department of Defense began as a pilot project with the objective of providing 'Beneficial Use Photochemical and Water Recycling Services' to all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. Expansion of the program to include its use on board ships is an exciting development and creates a real opportunity for both military and civilian shipboard use worldwide," Dr. Whitney said.

Military ships, including aircraft carriers and other ships carrying aircraft, take significant quantities of photographs and generate large volumes of photochemicals. Civilian ship lines, such as the cruise lines, also utilize large ships which produce large quantities of photographs and generate large volumes of photochemicals. Itronics Metallurgical is now expanding its sales efforts to offer "Beneficial Use Photochemical and Water Recycling" to include all major shipboard photography users.

Itronics, through its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., is the only company in the world with the technology to extract more than 99 percent of the silver and virtually all the other toxic heavy metals from used photoliquids and to convert the resulting liquid into environmentally beneficial, chelated, multinutrient liquid fertilizer products sold under the trademark GOLD'n GRO, and animal repellent/fertilizer products under the trademark GOLD'n GRO GUARDIAN. These earth friendly liquid fertilizers, which can be used for lawns and houseplants, and the popular Silver Nevada Miner bars, a souvenir of the Silver State, are available at the Company's Web site: http://www.itronics.com/.

Itronics Inc. is one of Nevada's leading process technology companies and a world leader in photochemical recycling. Headquartered in Reno, Nevada, it recycles spent liquid photochemicals into liquid GOLD'n GRO fertilizer products, recovers, refines, and sells silver, and provides project planning and technical services to the mining industry. 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 worldwide award in chemical engineering technologies.

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(Statements in this press release may constitute forward-looking statements and are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, including the failure to complete successfully the development of new or enhanced products, the Company's future capital needs, the lack of market demand for any new or enhanced products the Company may develop, any actions by the Company's partners that may be adverse to the Company, the success of competitive products, other economic factors affecting the Company and its markets, and other risks detailed from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The actual results may differ materially from those contained in this press release. The Company disclaims any obligation to update any statements in this press release.)

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