



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA®

Media Release

October 29, 2009

Media inquiries

Jessa B. Turner • Media & Public Relations Coordinator • (520) 382-2485 • jbturner@uaresearchpark.org

Hillary Theakston • Public Relations for Medipacs • (858) 735-2224 • htheakston@medipacs.com

Medipacs Receives National Recognition for Innovative Product Development

The Association of University Research Parks (AURP) has honored Medipacs Inc., a Tucson-based company, with its Innovation Award for 2009. The prestigious award is presented annually to a company located in a research or science park “that has produced a substantial and meaningful innovative product or service”.

Medipacs, Inc. is commercializing the first non-mechanical infusion pump for drug delivery. Instead of using traditional, mechanical pumps, Medipacs has developed a polymer that acts like a pump as it precisely expands to deliver injectable medications. This polymer technology is enabling the development of new drug infusion pumps that are wearable, programmable and disposable to allow for greater accuracy, patient comfort and convenience at a lower cost. Development of the technology has been funded in part with support from the National Science Foundation.

The Medipacs technology has eliminated all of the complex mechanical components that have been used in pumps throughout history. “It’s like comparing the cost and complexity of a Swiss watch to a piece of chewing gum. This elegant polymer technology brings simplicity to an area of drug delivery that is fraught with medical errors as well as high equipment and labor costs. Our pumps are designed to improve the accuracy and convenience of drug delivery compared to pumps that cost thousands of dollars,” said Mark McWilliams, Medipacs CEO.

Today infusion pumps and manual injections are used to deliver medications that cannot be taken orally such as biologic medications, hormones, fertility drugs, anti-coagulation drugs, insulin and pain medication. These traditional drug delivery methods can be expensive, complicated, inconvenient and uncomfortable because they require significant nurse time and complex, expensive mechanical pumps; are prone to infection and medical errors; and require multiple needle sticks. The simplicity and low cost of the Medipacs infusion pump address many of these shortcomings by improving

timeliness and accuracy of drug delivery and improving patient experience, decreasing medical errors and lowering hospital expenses.

“I am very proud to have been selected for the AURP Innovation Award,” says Mark Banister, Founder and Chief Technical Officer, Medipacs. “It recognizes how important support from both the university and the community can be to a start-up company like ours. The Arizona Center for Innovation at the University of Arizona Science and Technology Park has been an important part of our success in developing a truly innovative technology and commercial application.”

“Medipacs competed for this prestigious award with technology companies from across the United States. Incubated in the Arizona Center for Innovation and benefitting from the facilities and programs at the University of Arizona Technology Park, Medipacs has developed innovative technology that will improve the quality of treatment for thousands individuals who need regular doses of medication. We celebrate their success,” said Bruce Wright, Associate Vice President for University Research Parks for the University of Arizona.

The mission of **The University of Arizona Office of University Research Parks (OURP)** is to create environments that support and promote research, education, technology innovation, commercialization, and high technology business development and attraction. OURP has responsibility for the management and operation of the University of Arizona Science and Technology Park (Tech Park), Arizona Bioscience Park (BioPark) and the Arizona Center for Innovation (AzCI). For more information relating to University Research Parks please visit <http://ourparks.arizona.edu>.

Medipacs, Inc. has research facilities in the Arizona Center for Innovation in Tucson and corporate offices in the EvoNexus wireless technology incubator in San Diego, CA.