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Hands2GO Gives Upper Hand in Fight Against All Bugs – from Flu to MRSA

(Livingston, NJ, March 12, 2008)— As classrooms nationwide are stocking up on instant hand sanitizers, many schools have made the switch from alcohol-based formulas to Hands2GO®, the nation's first patented alcohol-free instant hand sanitizer. From the playground to the gym, Hands2GO stops the spread of germs. Hands2GO kills 99.9% of MRSA on contact, yet its gentle natural formula is safe for infants.

“Switching to Hands2GO was a smart choice since hand sanitizers are essential in today's classroom – it's peace of mind in a pump,” said Nora Thurber, R.N., school nurse at Mary Fogarty Elementary School in Providence, R.I. “Flammable alcohol-based gels were banned in many schools due to alcohol poisoning incidents and the adverse effects. Alcohol-based products dry and irritate hands. Ironically, those cracks are open targets for bacteria to enter your system. Hands2GO soothes and moisturizes while protecting against germs.” A study in the July-August 2007 issue of *Pediatric Nursing* found that hand sanitizers were as effective as soap and water in reducing absenteeism in four elementary schools.

Providing an additional level of protection couldn't come at a better time considering the outbreak of MRSA (methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus), a potentially lethal form of staph infection. Nicknamed “the super bug,” MRSA does not respond to common antibiotics. Acquired via skin-to-skin contact, recent MRSA outbreaks have left many schools reinstating guidelines for best practices in hand hygiene.

“A majority of bacterial and viral infections are spread through hand contact,” said David Anfang, M.D., a Fellow of The American College of Surgeons. He endorses easy to use and low cost foam, alcohol-free hand sanitizers, such as Hands2GO, that offer excellent protection from this common and potentially dangerous problem.

While several start-ups have jumped on the alcohol-free hand sanitizer bandwagon with unproven claims, **Hands2GO is the first U.S. patented industry leader** and has been the #1 safe option to consumers since 2003. Created by a mom for her children, it's natural and moisturizing with aloe, lavender and chamomile with no sticky residue. It contains no surfactants, dyes, fragrances or parabens. Mom-preneur Francine Glick, a former banking executive and mother, was seeking a safe solution that was also good for the skin. Hands2GO can also be used as an antiseptic on small scrapes and cuts and will not sting or burn because it is alcohol-free.

With superior effectiveness and a proven track record, Hands2GO helps families stay protected wherever they go. It is the only alcohol-free hand sanitizer sold in more than 6,000 retail stores nationwide including Babies 'R Us, Toys 'R Us, Bed Bath & Beyond,

Buy Buy Baby, Duane Reade, Whole Foods, Pathmark, and CVS.com. Soon Hands2GO will be in Longs and H-E-B. Made in the U.S. Hands2GO is the most effective and established product of its kind and the recipient of numerous awards.

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About Hands2GO® and Water Journey® Hands2GO is the industry leader in the antibacterial alcohol-free hand sanitizer market and the first-of-its-kind patented product. Manufactured in the U.S. in an FDA-regulated plant, Hands2GO, with parent company Water Journey, is the recipient of numerous awards. Hands2GO is effective in killing harmful bacteria such as MRSA, Staph Aureus and E. Coli. Hands2GO is formulated with a natural moisturizing blend of aloe vera, chamomile and lavender extracts. Hands2GO is the only alcohol-free hand sanitizer available at 6,000 retail stores nationwide. For more information go to: www.waterjourney.com.

Top 10 Tips for Students to Protect Against MRSA

1. Encourage students to clean their hands frequently.
2. Parents, tuck a small container of hand sanitizer such as alcohol-free Hands2GO® in your child's backpack if your child is mature enough to use it properly.
3. Educators, ensure that all shared sports equipment (wrestling mat, baseball gloves, gymnastics equipment) and locker room facilities such as benches are cleaned with detergent
4. Educators, install dispensers of hand sanitizer inside each classroom. Students should not have to have a hall pass and leave the classroom to clean their hands.
5. School authorities should periodically have surfaces in the gym and classroom cultured, to know the extent of MRSA contamination.
6. Warn students not to share gym clothes, towels, and other personal items. MRSA bacteria can live on fabrics and hard surfaces for up to 90 days.
7. Educators, make sure that when a student gets a cut or abrasion on the playground or in class, it is cleaned immediately by someone whose hands are also clean! Classrooms should have ready access to the help of a school nurse.
8. Warn students against sharing bars of soap. Use pump dispensers only.
9. Athletes, gym teachers and coaches are at higher risk of exposure to MRSA. In high contact sports, MRSA screening may be advisable.
10. School authorities should investigate the anti-microbial coatings available for use on sports equipment and other high-touch surfaces, and washable keyboards for computers.

www.hospitalinfection.org. Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths.

Did you know?*

- ATMs have more germs than a public restroom doorknob;
- The kitchen sink is even more contaminated with bacteria than the toilet bowl and garbage can;
- Office desks, computer keyboards, and elevator buttons are “germier” than the toilet seat at work;
- Outdoor port-o-potties are actually cleaner than picnic tables, shopping cart handles, and playground equipment.
- The dirtiest part of a hotel room is the remote control.

*Source: University of Arizona and Newscience.com