

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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\$100 AeroBreath™ Ventilators Save Lives in the Fight Against COVID-19 Simplicity Is the Key

BURLINGTON, VT (April 15, 2020) The AeroBreath™ Project today announces their initiative to be the first team to deliver 10,000 new ventilators, and to keep on delivering until the United States' and global needs have been met during the fight against COVID-19.

The AeroBreath™ Project began as the collaboration between two Vermont aerospace engineers, looking to use their knowledge and expertise to make an impact in the fight against COVID-19. Their main goal: keep it SIMPLE. Simplicity means minimal parts, ease of assembly and shortened time to deployment. More complex, high-tech ventilators are needed, but take more time to manufacture and deploy.

The simple AeroBreath™ Ventilators can have immediate impact in the recovery phase for patients leaving the ICU, acting as a transitional device for use by patients who have overcome COVID-19 in the ICU, are now testing virus-free, but may need to be weaned off a ventilator over a period of one to two weeks. Currently, the high-tech ventilators must be sent with these step-down patients, thus reducing the number of those devices available to new ICU patients. The simplest version of the AeroBreath™ ventilator can be used in regions of the world without access to negative-pressure ICUs.

“Through detailed review of a 15-year-old PLV-102b ventilator, I found that critical functionality could be easily replicated by a very simple machine,” stated Jim Richards, chairman of the AeroBreath™ Project. “No software, no firmware, no electronics, just simple check valves and, potentially, no need for power except for a hand crank. Our first working prototype was made from readily available materials in my lab, including a Quikrete tube.”

What to Know About the AeroBreath™ Ventilator:

- Delivery available in two tech lanes, S and E, in three form factors: assembled and tested vents, kits and IP download for sophisticated target organizations.

- The best blend of capability with fundamental design for deployment.
- The AeroBreath™ Project has partnered with major players in the arena from the outset of the project.
- All bases are already covered, from IP to clinical trials to use.
- Three patent applications and project trademark already on file with the USPTO. This foresight protects program integrity and amplifies the project's effectiveness.

Leading the project is Jim Richards, an MIT alum and lifelong innovator, who retired to his own aerospace company after a 20-year career in consumer electronics. To assist in the integral crowdfunding and crowdsourcing components of the project, Richards is joined by his son, James Richards, as well as nephew Kevin Busque, a two-time entrepreneur and co-founder of the small business 401(k) provider Guideline, which *Fast Company* named one of the World's Most Innovative Companies in finance.

The parallel paths for hand-cranked and motorized models allows The AeroBreath™ Project to deliver in volume by early June 2020. The project is currently funded by founders, friends, family and donations from forward-thinking groups and businesses. The project is seeking to fund production of the first 10,000 units via a vast number of small donations to its "Send an AeroBreath™" campaign. Larger donations to help kickstart are also very welcome. These ventilators will be channeled free-of-charge through relief organizations, both domestic and worldwide. The demand is huge, to fight this round of COVID-19 and to better equip the U.S. and the world for the next round.

For more information on The AeroBreath Project™, visit www.aerobreath.us.