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News Release

The Thermal Angel Blood and IV Fluid Warmer Provides Healthcare Providers with a Low-Cost Solution to Help H1N1 Flu Victims Battle Hypothermia

Dallas, TX – As America braces for a complicated flu season and a possible swine flu (H1N1) pandemic which could overwhelm the U.S. health care system, a Texas company is urging federal, state and local hospitals and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) teams to consider the simple-to-use, [Thermal Angel](#) Blood and IV Fluid Infusion Warmer to prevent fluid-induced hypothermia among potential victims.

“As the federal government undergoes the most ambitious vaccination campaign in U.S. history, we suggest that hospital and other emergency responders consider using The Thermal Angel to help prevent fluid-induced [hypothermia](#) among at-risk populations,” said Jay Lopez, president and chief operating officer of Estill Medical Technologies, Inc. – maker of The Thermal Angel Blood and IV Fluid Warmer.

Reports by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General and the Trust for America’s Health, a nonprofit research and advocacy group, released last week said that state and local governments are not adequately prepared for patient care when a possible pandemic reaches crisis levels.

Flu viruses can worsen existing medical conditions, and younger populations – as well as the elderly – are especially vulnerable during flu pandemics. At least 21 states are experiencing widespread flu activity, which is highly unusual this early in the year, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The Thermal Angel, a patented medical device being utilized by U.S. [hospitals](#), [military](#) and [emergency responders](#), supports the caregiver who wishes to warm IV fluids being administered to the patient, helping to lessen the effects of fluid-induced hypothermia. Disposable and lightweight (only 9 oz.), the Thermal Angel utilizes advanced technology which regulates the temperature almost 5,000 times per second. It also requires only 30 seconds to set up and start delivering warm fluid in an emergency health care setting.

The [high-tech](#), battery-operated Thermal Angel could be of tremendous value to hospital and EMS responders helping flu victims with hypothermia and dehydration. “Once a child or elderly person gets the flu, he or she is more vulnerable to complications, such as pneumonia or hypothermia—and any pre-existing condition can be aggravated. The Thermal Angel can help emergency responders, paramedics, pre-hospital practitioners and public safety responders reach their readiness goals by helping

them serve those vulnerable populations,” said Brandon Lopez, vice president of business development for Estill.

The flu contributes to about 36,000 deaths each year in the U.S. , but a presidential panel last month estimated that as many as 90,000 could fall victim to H1N1.

The Thermal Angel also eases logistical and medical challenges, which greatly reduces life-threatening conditions and costs, by following the patient from the initial point of injury, through transport, into ER and recovery for an uninterrupted continuum care. Health care providers prefer The Thermal Angel because it is portable, disposable and requires very little staff training.

The Thermal Angel can also help emergency health responders struggling to handle the H1N1 virus crisis overseas. To date, more than 90 countries have expressed interest in the Thermal Angel, including key U.S. allies.

“The Thermal Angel is an important tool in the arsenal of federal, state and local emergency medical professionals on the front lines of a potential medical surge in patients resulting from the H1N1 virus and a worldwide flu crisis,” said Jay Lopez.

Jay Lopez, along with his father, Leonard Lopez, the company's chairman, and his brother, Brandon Lopez, vice president of operations and business development, run the family-owned business in the Dallas, Texas area.

To order the Thermal Angel TA-200 (catalog #TA-200 and NSN# 6515-01-500-3521) and related products, please visit: www.ThermalAngel.com

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