



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MINNESOTA THERMAL SCIENCE ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF NEW CREDO DUROTHERM
HARD-SHELL REUSABLE SHIPPING CONTAINER

Reducing the Cost of Reusable Temperature-controlled Shipping Solutions

MINNEAPOLIS, MN – September 19, 2011 – Minnesota Thermal Science (MTS), a global leading provider of solutions for the safe transportation of temperature-sensitive pharmaceutical, blood and biologic products announces the development of a new hard-shell reusable shipper called Credo DUROTHERM, designed to increase payload protection, durability, longevity and enhanced transit and thermal performance while reducing the cost of temperature-controlled container ownership.

“Interest in reusable shipping solutions continues to grow in the pharmaceutical and biotech industries, but companies do grapple with cost of ownership”, reports Kevin Lawler, Vice President of Sales, Minnesota Thermal Science (MTS; Plymouth, MN). The company, which has been serving these markets with its Credo Cube thermal packaging systems, has led the way in working to reduce maintenance costs and is releasing its latest solution at IQPC’s 9th Annual Cold Chain & Temperature Management Global Forum next week.

“For many, the standard outer container for reusable shippers has been a Kraft corrugated or plastic corrugated outer box,” explains Lawler. “The issue has been the constant replacement over time of the corrugated outers as they become worn or soiled.”

To lengthen the life span of the outer component, MTS has devised a reusable outer component made of high-density polyethylene. This new outer will be designed to integrate the patented encapsulation of six individual vacuum-insulated panels (VIPs) that can each be removed and replaced independently if needed.

“Maintenance costs will be greatly reduced, which will in turn significantly reduce our clients’ cost of ownership,” says Lawler.

One of the challenges MTS faced was to strike the right balance between light weight and durability. “Customers wanted something durable and reusable with lower cost of ownership, but also lightweight in order to minimize shipping costs,” says Lawler. MTS offers other hard shell containers today, but they are of the heavy duty military-grade variety exceeding the costs and product requirements of many commercial clients.

Spending the last six months in design reviews with logistics companies and pharmaceutical customers, MTS developed and studied various designs for their usability and durability. “The result is a design featuring VIPs built into the hard plastic outer component and ease of use features that make this a great solution from the warehouse pack-out area and through the entire logistics network,” says Lawler.

“We expect the final design to be about 2 to 3 lb heavier than a standard plastic corrugated outer,” adds Lawler. “We also expect it to be in use for about 2 to 3 years.”

MTS also expects the newer outer component to improve shipper thermal performance and therefore offer lengthened transit options. “It should offer thermal performance that is about 10–15% better,” says Lawler. MTS is currently manufacturing models for thermal testing.

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These latest additions to the Credo Cube family will initially be available in 10-, 12-, and 16-liter options. MTS will then roll the design out to its other Credo products as required. "Through its design reviews with major logistics carriers, MTS was able to devise designs that will be considered commercially standard", reports Lawler.

Final production models will be on display in Booth #34/35 September 27-29th at the 9th Annual Cold Chain Temperature Management Global Forum which will be held September 26-29th 2011 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center (Hall G) in Philadelphia, PA. Go to www.coldchainpharma.com for additional information.

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