



## New MicroGuard™ at Iowa Infection Prevention and Control Seminar

### **PMX Industries will be participating in the vendor fair at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Iowa Infection Prevention and Control Seminar.**

Cedar Rapids, IA, February 22, 2010 – MicroGuard™ antimicrobial copper alloys and products will be featured at the vendor fair to be held at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Iowa Infection Prevention and Control Seminar on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at the Cedar Rapids Marriott Hotel.

Physicians, nurses and other professionals involved in the prevention and control of infections in healthcare facilities will be in attendance. The seminar is jointly sponsored by the University of Iowa Healthcare Epidemiology Program, the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and the Iowa Department of Public Health. The seminar will present topics related to the prevention of infections and patient safety. The seminar qualifies for continuing education credits.

Based on the results of extensive efficacy testing, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has registered MicroGuard antimicrobial copper alloys for sale with public health claims. Stringent testing showed that clean MicroGuard surfaces continuously reduce bioload remaining effective in killing 99.9% of bacteria\* within two hours even after repeated recontamination.

The EPA has approved MicroGuard antimicrobial copper alloys for over 100 products used in hospitals and other healthcare facilities including overbed tables, IV stands, hand railing, door hardware, faucets, countertops and other frequently touched surfaces.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that hospital-acquired infections affect 1.7 million people each year and cost over \$28 billion. Over 99,000 people die annually from hospital-acquired infections. The most common hospital-acquired infection is MRSA, which has more than tripled since 2000. MicroGuard surfaces kill more than 99.9% of MRSA within two hours of exposure when cleaned regularly.

The EPA protocol established a new standard for evidence-based validation of antimicrobial efficacy with public health claims. Previously only liquids and gases such as disinfectants and sterilizers could make public health claims. But, these products only kill bacteria when applied. MicroGuard surfaces continuously reduce bioload between routine cleaning.

While MicroGuard surfaces are not a substitute for good cleaning and disinfection practices, MicroGuard is an excellent supplement to a multi-faceted approach to combat hospital-acquired infections. Users should continue to follow current infection control practices. MicroGuard reduces microbial contamination, but it does not necessarily prevent cross-contamination. For more information, visit [www.microguard.info](http://www.microguard.info).

\*Independent laboratory testing demonstrated effective antibacterial activity against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterobacter aerogenes*, Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), *Escherichia coli* 0157:H7, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

**About PMX Industries**

Located in Cedar Rapids, IA, PMX Industries produces a wide range of copper and brass alloys, EcoCopper™ green building materials, and MicroGuard™ antimicrobial copper alloys.

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