

Dispension Industries and ePortID Enter Exclusive Agreement for Palm Vein Biometric Identity Verification Technology in Automated Kiosks for Restricted Product Distribution

Combined solution being used by NFP MySafe Society to provide patients with secure, contactless access to safe, prescription opioids to reduce overdoses, deaths.



Facts:

Industry: **Healthcare**

Location: **BC, ON, NS**

Solution: **MySafe Project**

Challenge:

Finding a secure, easy-to-use method to distribute safe opioids to high-risk patients and track usage to reduce overdose deaths in Canada.

Solution:

MySafe Society using Dispension and ePortID technology for MySafe Project, World's first biometric prescription opioid dispensing machine.



An epidemic of drug overdoses has claimed the lives of more than 20,000 Canadians since 2016. This complex social issue inspired Dr. Mark Tyndall's plan to offer safe opioids to people with addictions who are risk of dying from fentanyl contaminated street drugs.

Tyndall, a professor at University of British Columbia's School of Population and Public Health, and the former director of the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, had an idea to offer prescribed doses of safe opioids through vending machines, but wasn't sure how to do it until he was contacted by Corey Yantha, President and CEO of Dispension Industries.

Dispensation Industries' Verified Identity Dispenser (VID)

The VID is a secure platform for safe distribution of restricted products. Biometric authentication enables accurate verification of user identities before providing access to restricted products stored safely inside. The modular design allows for deployment in locations with limited space.

“The VID is comparable to an ATM, only it dispenses regulated products instead of cash. It uses biometric technology to verify the identity of a registered user with unmatched precision,” Yantha said.

Due to the nature of products being stored in its machines, security and accuracy were top priorities for Dispensation when choosing a biometric authentication technology. That is why the company decided to partner with ePortID to offer the most secure, accurate, and reliable identity authentication method.

ePortID's Biometric Access Control Solutions

ePortID leverages the power of the Fujitsu PalmSecure palm vein scanner to provide the best biometric solutions on the market.

Palm vein scanning cannot be copied or cloned. Near infrared light illuminates the complex vein pattern under the skin and uses this unique pattern to accurately and rapidly identify an individual. The process is contactless and takes less than 1 second.

The MySafe Project

The MySafe Project kiosk looks similar to an ATM and is stocked with specific doses of hydromorphone prescribed to individual users.

MySafe is the only safe supply initiative that uses technology to improve on security, convenience, monitoring and evaluation and can be readily established in smaller communities where harm reduction infrastructure are not available.



“ePortID's contactless vascular biometric authentication solution was chosen as the most effective, low barrier access control system for the VID because of its accuracy, ease of use, and in the interest of public hygiene.”

Corey Yantha
Founder, President
and CEO,
Dispensation
Industries Inc.

PalmSecure Benefits:

- Extremely accurate
- Highly reliable
- Contactless and hygienic
- Non-intrusive and easy to use
- Not impacted by outside factors

It's As Easy As



For maximum security, the machine weighs 800 pounds and is bolted to the floor. The VID is equipped with security features to prevent tampering, diversion and theft, and every package is logged via a web-based portal that can only be accessed by program administrators. All biometric data is fully encrypted.

Participants in the MySafe Project are opioid users with a history of overdoses. In order to be enrolled, participants must be active injection drug users, and undergo a medical evaluation to get a prescription for hydromorphone from a doctor. Program participants are tested (urine) to ensure they are taking the prescribed drug.

Participants must initially enroll to use the machine by registering their palm vein pattern and creating a profile. When people scan their hands at the machine, it will match them with their profile and dispense their unique prescribed dosage.

The hope is that the biometric opioid vending machine from Dispension Industries with ePortID's Palm Vein Scanning technology will reduce overdose deaths and crime by providing prescribed individuals with secure access to a safe supply. People who may otherwise turn to criminal activities and the illegal street economy to secure money for drugs will now have access to regulated doses of medical-grade opioids.



Recent News

On behalf of the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, Darren Fisher, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, announced nearly \$3.5 million to expand the MySafe Society safer supply project. With this investment, MySafe will be able to operate five sites in four cities across Canada. This innovative project offers a new way to provide medication to people living with opioid use disorder as an alternative to the toxic illegal drug supply and to help prevent overdoses.

Cision Canada - News Provided By Health Canada | 02.03.2021



Testimonials

“MySafe allows participants to access a safer drug without fear, shame and stigma, and without contact with anyone, which is all the more essential during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Darren Fisher, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health



“The MySafe Project has the potential to increase access to pharmaceutical-grade medications in order to respond to the dual crises of the overdose epidemic and the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Tammy Simpson, Director, Substance Use and Addictions Program, Health Canada

“The successes of the MySafe Project in participant autonomy, flexibility, and safety are clear indications of it’s necessity.”

National Chief Perry Bellegarde, Assembly of First Nations



“The VPD does not have any safety concerns regarding the MySafe Project. In addition to reducing the likelihood of overdose and death, it can potentially reduce crime and lower burdens placed on first responders.”

Adam Palmer, Chief Constable, Vancouver Police Department

“Dispension’s system provides an excellent example of a private sector solution that promises to address important distribution challenges while preventing unintended access.”

The Honourable Colin Deacon, Independent Senator for Nova Scotia

“We have thousands of people in the City of Vancouver who could benefit from this initiative and it is my belief that we need scalable innovative initiatives such as mySafe to adequately respond to the challenge before us.”

Mayor Kennedy Stewart, City of Vancouver

“Establishing a network of mySafe secure dispensing systems could enable communities to explore additional harm reduction models, which is in alignment with the Opioid Use and Overdose Framework’s mandate and municipal public safety priorities.”

Mayor Mike Savage, City of Halifax

“Incremental risks to patients is low. The automated dispensing approach appears to provide potential significant benefits and low risks for patients.”

Greg Paoli, Risk Scientist, Risk Sciences International



“Palm Vein Scanning is the most accurate and most secure biometric available. We have given context and capabilities to this amazing technology to answer identity verification needs in a variety of locations and situations. The software was designed to be easy and intuitive so that anyone can use it.”

Paul Labow,
President and CEO,
ePortID.

About ePortID LLC

ePortID LLC (ePortID), was created to answer the growing demand for easy to use, reliable and accurate contactless biometric identity verification solutions. ePortID is a solutions application development partner with FujitsuFrontech North America. ePortID’s technical development relationship with Fujitsu, one of the world's most respected technology companies, provides customers with the assurance the solution they choose is well thought out, proven, solid, reliable and dependable. ePortID is an important, reliable development partner of Dispension Industries and will continue to work in tandem to develop solutions for real world applications.

About Dispension Industries Inc.

Dispension Industries Inc. (“Dispension”) is a Canadian-based technology company that specializes in secure, trusted, intelligent self-service kiosks for restricted product distribution. Dispension is disrupting and transforming restricted product distribution with their integrated kiosk platform, the Verified Identity Dispenser (VID). The VID uses palm vein biometric authentication technology to identify or “age-gate” registered users with unmatched precision prior to dispensing controlled amounts of restricted products locked securely inside the kiosk.

About the MySafe Society

The MySafe Society (MySafe) is a federally incorporated not for profit organization with a mission to fund, develop, operate, provide and evaluate a safe and secure delivery system for controlled substances based on the principles of harm reduction. The MySafe Society, with the support of Dispension, has launched the MySafe Project; a safe supply initiative formed in response to the overdose crisis. Using technology, the MySafe Project is providing vulnerable people with a safer, regulated supply of prescription opioids to prevent fatal and non-fatal overdoses caused by toxic street drugs.