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Tuesday, July 01, 2008



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## ACN NEWSWIRE

## AridTec Scores International Success with Singapore's First Patent-pending Atmospheric Water Harvesting Technology; Secures Distributors for More than 10 countries in the Middle East, Europe and Asia-Pacific

Singapore, June 24, 2008 - (ACN Newswire) - AridTec Pte Ltd, a Singapore-based alternative potable water solutions provider, today announced that its patent-pending proprietary atmospheric water harvesting solutions have received strong interest from the international market. AridTec, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, AirQua International Pte Ltd, had secured distributors covering the Middle East, European and Asian markets, with an initial distribution value of more than USD12 million in the first year, excluding revenue from consumables.

Developed by 32 year-old technopreneur Mr Vincent Oh, AridTec's patent-pending atmospheric water harvesting technology is a first for Singapore. Armed with its proprietary technology, AridTec is also Singapore's first fully integrated atmospheric water solutions provider and one of only a handful of companies in the world to have the capabilities to develop, manufacture and distribute a wide range of atmospheric water generator products.

AridTec's patent-pending atmospheric water harvesting technology enables faster condensation of water vapour into droplets and consumes one-third less energy compared to other similar products in the market. In terms of cost-savings, AirQua's solutions harvests pure water from the atmosphere at just 10 cents per litre in Singapore, inclusive of electricity cost, compared to 40 to 50 cents per litre for bottled water.

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In April 2008, AridTec incorporated AirQua International to commercialise the AirQua range of atmospheric water harvesting solutions, which range from small consumer AirQua AirWater Makers catering to homes and offices, to full-size atmospheric water generators (AWG) turnkey projects customised to meet the needs of customers in the agriculture, military, offshore and marine sectors.

To date, AirQua has signed on distributors covering Arab Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates), the Netherlands, Spain, Australia, the Philippines and India.

Said Mr Vincent Oh, Director of AridTec Pte Ltd, "We are pleased to have secured the interest of several distributors from overseas markets in a short span of two months. The strong interest from distributors is an endorsement of our patent-pending AirQua technology. We are currently targeting markets such as Europe, North America and the Middle East as our solutions are a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to bottled water, which is consumed traditionally in these markets.

"Compared to other similar solutions available in the market, our customers can expect to cut their electricity bill by about one-third as our AirQua solutions consume less energy to extract more pure water from the air."

For bottled water (5 gallons / 19 litres), one bottle can cost S\$8 to S\$10, which works out to be S\$0.40 to S\$0.50 per litre. Water produced by the AirQua AirWater unit can cost as little as S\$0.05 depending on electricity cost. For example, it would cost about S\$0.10 per litre in Singapore, including electricity.

AridTec also plans to ride on the growing popularity of bottled water and capture part of the demand with its solutions which produce water of pristine quality at a lower cost. Developed regions, such as the United States and Western Europe, are the world's biggest bottled water consumers. Emerging countries such as India and China are also consuming more bottled water and the rate of consumption is expected to accelerate over the next few years. In a study by Datamonitor, the bottled water industry is forecast to grow 32.4% to 159.2 billion litres by 2010, translating into US\$75.3 billion.

Said Mr Oh, "We are currently in the midst of discussions to secure more distributors over the next few months. Besides existing markets, we have also received keen interest from distributors in North America and Africa. To meet the demand for our solutions, we intend to set up our own manufacturing facility in the Southeast Asian region.

"Besides growing the market for our products targeted at the consumer market, we will also be actively exploring opportunities for our industrial and commercial applications for our technologies. Our range of AirQua atmospheric water harvesting solutions is highly scalable, and can be customised to serve communities in remote regions, offshore platforms, vessels and integrated into existing infrastructure. We are in the midst of discussion with potential customers to offer our solutions on a turnkey basis."

To reach out to potential customers in Singapore and overseas, AridTec will be participating in the Singapore International Water Week on June 24 to 26. Its AirQua solutions will also be showcased at the Innovation Corner during the event.

### **3rd Annual LNG World 2008**

15 - 16 July

Tokyo

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### **Compensation and Benefits Forum**

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Tokyo

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### **Global Infrastructure Projects**

4 - 5 August

Singapore

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### **Transformative NGN**

3 - 4 September

Tokyo

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### **Buyout & Leveraged Financing**

#### **Japan 2008**

10 - 11 September

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22 - 23 September

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### **Intelligent Lean Laboratories**

25 - 26 September

Melbourne

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### **Hedge Fund Administration and Operations**

9 - 10 October

Hong Kong

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### **Maritime Manpower**

13 - 14 October

Malaysia

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### **Operational Efficiency in the Energy Trading Market**

## About AridTec Pte Ltd

Established in November 2007, AridTec is a Singapore-based alternative potable water solutions provider, focusing on harvesting potable water from ambient atmospheric water vapour. With its patent-pending water harvesting solutions, AridTec is Singapore's first fully integrated atmospheric water solutions provider and one of only a handful of companies in the world to develop, manufacture and distribute a wide range of proprietary atmospheric water generators.

AridTec's solutions range from small consumer AirQua AirWater Makers catering to homes and offices, to full-size atmospheric water generators (AWG) turnkey projects customised to meet the needs of customers in the agriculture, military, offshore and marine sectors.

In April 2008, AridTec incorporated AirQua International to market and distribute the AirQua range of atmospheric water harvesting solutions globally. To date, AirQua has secured distributors covering the Middle East, European and Asian markets.

AridTec will continue to strive to incorporate advanced technologies to provide products and services that satisfy the requirements of different industries where customers stand to make savings on cost, space and energy.

Please visit Aridtec at [www.aridtec.com/](http://www.aridtec.com/)

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13 - 14 October  
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13 - 14 October  
Indonesia

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### Intellectual Property-A Strategic Business Prospective

21 - 22 October  
Singapore

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