



NEWS RELEASE
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CONTACT: Kim Simmons
The Hygenic Corporation
ksimmons@hygenic.com
330-634-2216

**AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION ENDORSES THERA-BAND®
RESISTANCE BANDS INCLUDING NEW AND IMPROVED LATEX-FREE**

*Now all patients and practitioners can rely on one resistance band system
to meet in-clinic and at-home needs*

Akron, Ohio – May 12, 2010 – The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) has endorsed the new and improved Thera-Band® Latex-Free Professional Resistance Bands, an important complement to the market-leading Thera-Band® Latex Professional Resistance Bands from Performance Health / Hygenic Corporation. Engineered to match the performance and resistance of the market-leading Thera-Band Latex Bands, patients and practitioners can now rely on one system of trusted progression and resistance from Thera-Band—market-leading latex bands, new and improved latex-free bands, or both to best meet their in-clinic and at-home needs.

The APTA endorsement is in response to requests by physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and their patients for a product that is as effective as the Thera-Band Professional Latex Bands, but is appropriate for people who experience allergic reactions to latex.

The availability of latex-free therapy products has become more important as the reporting of allergic reactions to latex has increased in the past six years. The increased numbers of latex-allergic individuals have prompted the establishment of guidelines for patient care and the healthcare provider. Frequent users of latex products may develop allergies to latex proteins, with resulting allergic reactions varying from mild to life-threatening.¹ According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 8% to 12% percent of health-care workers, regularly exposed to latex, are sensitized.²

These new latex-free resistance bands were developed to match the pull forces of the Thera-Band Latex Professional Resistance Bands, and are scent and powder free. Together these products form one system to meet all patient needs, and are provided in established Thera-Band

¹ The American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology; www.aaaai.org; Guidelines for the Management of Latex Allergies and Safe Latex Use in Health Care Facilities

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Health Marketing; Resources for TV Writers and Producers; Latex Allergy http://www.cdc.gov/healthmarketing/entertainment_education/tips/latex.htm



colors and resistances including Yellow (thin), Red (medium), Green (heavy), Blue (extra heavy) and Black (special heavy), making them easy to identify and integrate into any clinical practice.

Each Thera-Band Latex-Free Resistance Band is available in a 25-yard roll dispenser pack with safety precautions. The latex-free bands are also available in the beginner and advanced Thera-Band® Active Recovery Kits, which enhance the patients' treatment through a home exercise program. Each kit includes safety precautions and exercise instructions.

The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) represents more than 74,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students of physical therapy nationwide.

Performance Health / Hygenic Corporation is a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of a broad portfolio of products for the therapy, rehabilitation, massage and wellness markets. Maker of market-leading Thera-Band® and Biofreeze® products, Performance Health / Hygenic Corporation provides evidence-based protocols, education, turn-key dispensing and pain management solutions. www.thera-band.com www.biofreeze.com www.thera-bandacademy.com

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