



NEWS RELEASE
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**Introducing New and Improved Thera-Band®
Latex-Free Professional Resistance Bands**

Akron, Ohio – December 1, 2009 – Performance Health / Hygenic Corporation announces the introduction of new and improved Thera-Band® Latex-Free Professional Resistance Bands. Engineered to match the performance and resistance of the market-leading Thera-Band Latex Professional Resistance Bands, this new and improved latex-free product provides the perfect complement. Now patients and practitioners can 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 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

“We are very pleased to be able to offer a complete line of latex-free professional resistance bands that follow the same Thera-Band System of Trusted Progression that has been used in the industry for over 30 years. The new latex-free professional resistance bands meet the needs of patients and practitioners with latex allergies, and are the best option for hospitals and facilities with a no-latex policy,” stated Jenn Bloomhuff, Product Manager for Performance Health / Hygenic Corporation. “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.

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



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Together, these products form one system to meet all patient needs. Both the Thera-Band Latex-Free and Latex Resistance Bands are endorsed by the American Physical Therapy Association.”

Thera-Band Latex-Free Professional Resistance Bands are provided in established Thera-Band 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.

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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