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Innovation Academy 2011

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1st Prize: Tamas Heidegger

The Hand-in-Scan objective hand hygiene assessment device received the grand prize at the 1st ICPIC Innovation Academy in July 2011.



The Hungarian team and its international partners develop, validate and commercialize a hand hygiene system (Hand-in-Scan) for the direct and objective evaluation and control of hand washing.

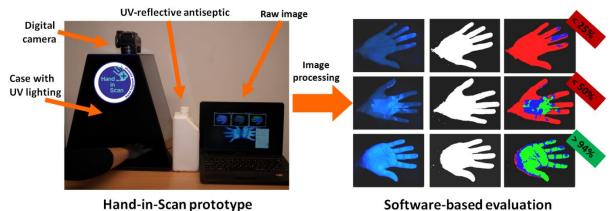
The original idea—to use a non-invasive UV-marked commercial alcoholic hand rub—leave the medical hand washing workflow intact, and digital imaging and image processing was introduced to objectively determine the effectiveness of one's hand washing technique. Images are taken in the prototype box that gives repeatable and immediate

measurement of hand washing quality, based on the UV traces of the solution.

The Budapest University of Technology and Economics' (BME) spin-off company, together with the Semmelweis University and the Austrian Center for Medical Innovation and Technology (ACMIT) had been working on the system for two years, yet the ICPIC event was a major milestone for the project.

With the professional and financial support of the award and the committee, the team has successfully negotiated a venture capital investment, to develop the market-ready version of the prior prototype. In the meanwhile, the ICPIC fund enabled the team to continue its prototype development, leading to better technical solutions, while becoming an integrated part of the Semmelweis University's MD program. Having conducted initial microbiological studies, they are now ready to launch a major assessment campaign. The prestigious award opened many door for the innovators, who can now claim global partners on three continents, and also received further acknowledgment for their efforts, most recently, the LISA MedTech award at the Best of Biotech business plan competition in Vienna.

The Hand-in-Scan team's main focus and mission remains to crack down on hospital acquired infections, and they continue to synchronize their work and educational programs with the WHO quidelines.



More information: www.handinscan.com

Contact: Tamas Haidegger at info@handinscan.com

LATEST UPDATE ON THE PROJECT

The Hand-in-Scan project

HandInScan Ltd.

www.handinscan.com



Founded on the heritage of Ignaz Semmelweis, our Hungarian start-up develops, validates and commercializes a novel hand hygiene control system—Hand-in-Scan—for the direct and objective evaluation of hand rubbing. Our mission is to effectively reduce healthcare-associated infections, and to eradicate contamination incidents at high-risk industrial procedures. Hand-in-Scan has the unique capability to provide measurable and real-time feedback on the efficacy of hand hygiene. Employing ultraviolet light and digital imaging, the system highlights disinfected versus unaffected areas after regular hand rubbing, providing an integrated quality assurance concept for medical care institutions and clean manufacturing sites. The original idea and validation results received strong interest from professionals, and the project was merited with the 1st ICPIC Innovation Academy Award in 2011, which gave a tremendous boost. In the past year, the system has performed in extended trial in many institutions, clearly showing the major improvement achieved by the staff in the quality of hand rubbing while employing the system. Hand-in-Scan received CE marking, and became the first system to offer computer-enhanced hand hygiene control at the point of care.





In the advent of the UNESCO Semmelweis year, the Hand-in-Scan team now doubled their efforts to create the brand new version of the device, ready to be distributed across continents and market domains all requiring a boost in hand hygiene. Having realized the general need for support in organization of hand hygiene campaigns, Hand-in-Scan now offers an official, accredited hand hygiene training program for hospitals and the general public. The team even ventured into kindergartens to start early on proper education. Further, a new version of the system is specially tuned for visitors of critical care units, providing them a basic education and verification on their hand hygiene, thereby extending the protective care to the neonatal babies or recently operated patients. In the past years, we have not lost the focus and the drive, to provide technology-aided solution to significantly reduce infections.

Image caption:

The Hand-in-Scan training tuned for kindergarten kids: a playful way of introducing personal hygiene best-practices at an early age.





Hand-in-Scan advertisement to help in the fight against Ebola.

Have a look at the latest press releases on Hand-in-Scan by clicking here