

International Ventilator Users Network's mission is to enhance the lives and independence of home mechanical ventilator users and polio survivors through education, advocacy, research and networking.

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Special thanks ...

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info@post-polio.org and info@ventusers.org.*

From Around the Network

Judith R. Fischer, IVUN Information Specialist, info@ventusers.org

New Products

ATHENA, a new multi-mode ventilator (for invasive and noninvasive ventilation) from Dima Italia, S.r.l., can be used with both a single- or double-limb circuit. The touch screen color monitor is easy to read and use. Lightweight (3.5 kg, 7.7 lbs.) and compact, the ATHENA's rechargeable internal LiPo battery lasts up to 12 hours. ATHENA is not available in the USA. www.dimaitalia.com



OPAP® Dental Appliance from OPAP Health Care offers an alternative to vent users who cannot adapt to or tolerate nasal and facial masks. The custom-made appliance is simply inserted into the mouth and held in place by the upper and lower teeth. The company works in conjunction with the individual's dentist to get impressions of the mouth and teeth. For more details, visit www.opaphealthcare.com.



Travel

"Flying with Ventilation" is the name of a working group spearheaded by Maryze Schoneveld van der Linde, a vent user in the Netherlands. Concerned about the increasing problems vent users experience when planning to travel by plane in Europe, Maryze (project manager at the European Neuromuscular Centre for the EU project TREAT-NMD) persuaded a member of the European Union parliament to present the group's concerns to the EU. These concerns (to list a few) include being refused to travel by the airlines, often on short notice; complicated procedures in finding out how to get approval to fly; and determining which airlines allow people to use their ventilator on board without hassles. For complete information, email Maryze, maryze@xs4all.nl, and visit www.ventusers.org/adv/LtrToEUflyingWvent.pdf.

Speech Aid

Voice Aerobics™ Songbirds is the latest in a series of CDs with speech and voice exercises set to music by Mary Spremulli, MA, CCC-SLP. Spremulli designed the exercises for individuals with changes in speech and voice due to neurological conditions. The Songbirds CD is available for \$15, plus shipping and handling. Visit www.voiceaerobicsdvd.com and <http://aerobicsdvd.blogspot.com>.

New Vent Users' Discussion Group

A new Internet discussion group for vent users is available through Google. Go to <http://groups.google.com/group/vent-users>. ▲