



PRESS RELEASE Sept. 6, 2017

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China Array Plastics Selected to Prototype and Manufacture Jana Care's Aina Mobile Blood Monitoring System

Company also helped Jana Care develop precise light reflectivity chamber to ensure accurate and consistent blood analysis

Pittsfield, Mass. – Jana Care, a medical technology company based in Boston, Mass., has selected China Array Plastics, an engineering and injection molding company specializing in high-performance polymers with offices here and in Wuhan, China, to prototype and manufacture its new Aina Mobile Blood Monitoring System. Jana Care, which is tackling the challenges of managing diabetes and other chronic diseases with affordable diagnostics and mobile technology, sought China Array Plastics' expertise to optimize the manufacturability of the Aina diagnostic sensor while accelerating time to market and keeping costs down.

Jana Care was referred to China Array by another company in the Boston medical device community through its connections to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). "Having taken the Aina concept as far as CAD and 3D printing could carry it, we needed to move on to injection molded prototypes followed by rapid, scalable manufacturing," said Michal Depa, Jana Care's chief technology officer. "China Array was well suited to the task. Its molding facility in Wuhan, China was a great option to keep the cost of the device affordable, which is key to our goal of maximizing usage in all geographies. We're both also headquartered in Massachusetts, which streamlined engineering."

Carl Olson, vice president of marketing for China Array, explained, "We identified a tough, affordable and easily installed reflective substrate that met Jana Care's light specifications and developed a housing that held the reflective surface in an immutable position for accurate, repeatable testing. The housing also fully protects the reflectivity chamber from environmental impacts, which is particularly important for a device used by the general public."

For the sensor housing components, China Array identified a high-heat, medical grade polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (PC/ABS) blend with a proprietary texture applied, giving the part the attractive appearance, impact strength, low cost and biocompatibility that Jana Care required.

After an overall design review to improve manufacturability (and affordability), China Array built hybrid prototype/small production tooling, which allowed Jana Care to obtain several thousand units for clinical and field trials in Asia and the United States. Based on the trials, China Array modified these molds to achieve the desired functionality for production tooling.

The Aina diagnostic sensor plugs into any smartphone and analyzes HbA1c, blood glucose, hemoglobin and lipids from a capillary blood sample placed on a reactive test strip. It can be used by patients for self-monitoring and by healthcare providers for mass screening and point-of-care testing. The Aina sensor is the core of a mobile platform that uses biochemistry, optical sensing, software algorithms and behavioral science to combat diabetes and other chronic diseases at greatly reduced costs.

The Aina device is CE-marked and widely used in Asia. Jana Care is currently working on scaling it to other geographies across the world, including preparing for US market entry.

About China Array

China Array Plastics, with engineering offices in Pittsfield, Mass., USA and a wholly owned, state-of the-art tooling and injection molding facility in Wuhan, China, specializes in processing ultra-polymers, the pinnacle of performance in the plastics industry, for high-tech customers globally.

Ultra-polymers' chemical complexity, extremely high melt temperatures, unusual molding characteristics and high costs require specialized processing equipment, high heat tool making capabilities, engineering and processing expertise, and stringent quality control and intellectual property protection. China Array, a full-service injection molder, provides in-house tooling and engineering support in the United States and China. For more information on China Array Plastics go to: <u>www.chinaarray.com</u>.

About Jana Care

Jana Care is a health technology company focused on improving management of chronic diseases. The multidisciplinary team uses a combination of biochemistry, optical sensors, software algorithms, behavior change science, and mobile technology to create complete solutions for patients and doctors.

Jana Care was established in 2011 and has extensive experience in point-of-care assay development, mobile app development, optical systems, marketing and business. Jana Care has developed the Aina Device, a low-cost analyzer that plugs into any smartphone and can be used to measure point-of-care tests for HbA1c, Blood Glucose, Hemoglobin and Lipids. The company has also developed the Habits Program, based on the landmark Diabetes Prevention Program, to deliver lifestyle coaching over the mobile phone with a compelling and intuitive program. For more information, visit <u>www.janacare.com</u>.

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PHOTOS: Left: The Aina Device Attached to a Smartphone Middle: HbA1c Device with Strip Reader Right: Aina Devices as a Mini Lab

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