



Morphix Technologies®

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPHIX TECHNOLOGIES® UNVEILS NEW EDUCATIONAL VIDEO ON PRODUCT TO DETECT METHAMPHETAMINE LABS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON FIRST RESPONDERS *Video Spreads Awareness of Methamphetamine Problem within the United States and Educates First Responders on Proper Ways to Respond to Meth Lab Scenes*

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (March 2012) – Methamphetamine has become the number one drug of choice for abusers since the 1980's, surpassing cocaine. The meteoric rise in use is due largely to its commonplace ingredients, ease of manufacture and low cost. Illegal production in small labs using homemade recipes increased rapidly in a little over ten years. By 2006, a U.N. World Drug Report cited over 26 million meth addicts in the world; the number of addicts equaled the combined number for cocaine and heroin users. The United States, in 2006, had 1.4 million meth users.

When officers respond to a call, they do not always know what waits for them behind the door. In some cases, they come across makeshift meth labs. Many officers have experienced the immediate effects of exposure with burning eyes, throats and coughing, while others, after repeated exposures, have chronic effects. These may include esophageal problems, autoimmune disease, heart attacks, strokes, gall bladder problems and other rare disorders. In at least one case in Utah, a former officer died of causes believed to be related to frequent exposure to the chemicals involved in meth production.

[Morphix Technologies®](#), an innovator in the science of colorimetric detection devices for dangerous chemical gases, is on the forefront of preventing accidental exposure to first responders from these toxic chemicals with the release of their educational video "[Detection of Methamphetamine Labs and Their Effects on First Responders](#)". The video discusses what methamphetamine is and the history and spread of its use throughout the United States, as well as how its use and production affects first responders. The video also provides helpful tips on how first responders can protect themselves.



First responders can take the extra step to protect themselves in such scenarios by wearing the [Chameleon® Clan-Meth Lab Detection Kit](#), a field-configurable chemical detection unit, manufactured by Morphix Technologies®. The [Chameleon®](#) is a low-cost, easy-to-use, hands-free solution for first responders. It contains disposable cassettes that detect five different toxic gases commonly found in methamphetamine production.

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The *Chameleon*® is the best early detection method available to determine if harmful chemicals are present in an unknown situation. Most police and EMS agencies do not have chemical detection equipment available to them, thus the need for a simple, inexpensive method, such as the *Chameleon*®, to determine if chemical hazards are present.

The *Chameleon*® can be used for “whole house” or “shake and bake” methamphetamine lab situations. In addition to the protection of officers, the *Chameleon*® can also provide probable cause for search warrants.



The use of *Chameleon*® Detection Kits by police, fire and first responders during calls of service and as a part of their training program can provide an extra measure of safety and perhaps even save lives. In addition to safety considerations, the use of the *Chameleon*® can reduce liability, injury and time off as well as the associated cost.

The *Chameleon*® is designed for an easy on/easy off fit on the wearer’s forearm and can be worn over most turn-out gear or Level-A suits. The sensors change color when toxic gases are present and

require no power source or calibration. Unlike current colorimetric detection systems, the *Chameleon*® is designed to military standards for use in a wide variety of operating environments. It can be used in desert heat, arctic cold or tropical conditions and can even be immersed in water. The *Chameleon*® detects gases and vapors in the air where other technologies only detect hazards in liquid or aerosol forms. Gaseous forms of toxic chemicals are the most likely danger to first responders, police and fire personnel.



The *Chameleon*® Clan-Meth Lab Detection Kit contains two armbands and ten sensors each for: ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, iodine, low pH (acid) and phosphine. For more information on any of the *Chameleon*® Detection Kits visit www.morphotec.com.

The video is available to watch for FREE on the [Morphix Technologies YouTube Channel](#).

About Morphix Technologies®:

Morphix Technologies®, located in Virginia Beach, Virginia, is an ISO 9001:2008 certified company developing and manufacturing products that detect invisible dangers in order to save lives. Morphix Technologies has taken innovation to the next level with high-quality, easy-to-use, cost effective, simple colorimetric sensor technology for military, first responders, emergency, homeland security and industrial personnel. The latest product, the *Chameleon*®, a wearable device that allows hands-free detection of up to ten different hazards at one time in a variety of operating environments, has provided their customers whose job is often in Harm’s Way, a life saving, early response system like no other on the market today. www.morphotec.com