

## Innovation & Sustainability Awards

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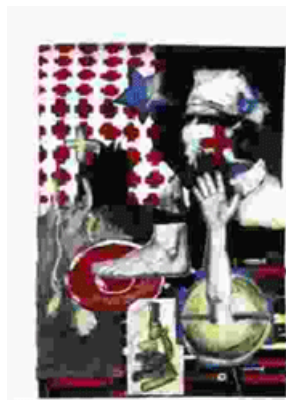

### 2005 Winners

#### THE 2005 INNOVATION & SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Most Outstanding New Innovation:

(sponsored by [TBM](#))

#### Cerdak Wound Treatment Devices



#### Forget time – Cerdak heals all wounds

With a worldwide rise in chronic wounds and increased resistance of micro-organisms in the wound environment, two South African innovators have developed a revolutionary approach to wound healing that can be used successfully in even the most remote situations and with minimal instruction.

The Cerdak wound treatment device consists of a fabric sachet filled with micro-porous ceramic granules, and differs radically from other wound care devices in its appearance, application, action and effect on wounds. This natural product promotes the natural process of healing in an effective way.

Wounds produce moisture during the healing process. This moisture gets rid of micro-organisms and foreign objects in the wound and provides growth factors, proteins and cellular elements which promote healing. However, these elements break down when they stagnate. This is where Cerdak comes into its own, removing old wound moisture from the wound environment without depriving the wound of the necessary fresh exudates.

The treatment is unique as it allows treatment in the most unhygienic and poverty-affected conditions, making it ideal for home care. Even patients who have little education can be taught in less than three minutes how to use the treatment. Under normal circumstances, wounds do not need cleaning during treatment and the product can be disposed of in ordinary garbage, be buried in the ground or burnt in a cooking fire.

Cerdak wound treatment devices have been tested in a clinical setting under the most difficult and non-hygienic circumstances, and are eminently suitable in both First and Third World environments. Clinical tests have shown astonishing results on chronic wounds which had previously resisted treatment using conventional methods.

In South Africa's crowded public hospitals, Cerdak devices will not only enhance the quality of life of patients suffering from chronic wounds, but also promise to have an impact on the public health sector by reducing hospital days. In spite of concerted competition from world leaders in wound care technology, Cerdak is the one product that can optimise natural healing by optimising conditions in the wound bed. This locally manufactured product is affordable and the company has a policy to make the product available at affordable prices to all. Cerdak is registered as a "Proudly South African" product and is produced in Mtunzini on the Kwazulu-Natal North Coast using South African materials and providing employment for local people. Cerdak wound treatment devices are patented worldwide.

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