

Weaving a Healthcare Net for Seniors

When I grow old, I hope that society can treat me with respect, friendliness and support. I hope I can appreciate the meaning and value of life with happiness and dignity until the end of my life.

In consideration of the increasing healthcare demands due to the aging population, the government started the "Seniors U-Care Flagship Plan" in 2006. The plan encouraged the participation and cooperation of medical, healthcare, nursing, information and communication manufacturers for the purpose of building a comprehensive healthcare network. In 2008, MIRDC was commissioned by the Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, MOEA to develop the "Professional Incubation Network Program for Healthcare Industry" in order to integrate capabilities of university incubation centers and knowledge service providers, and also create a professional incubation network team.

After getting involved in the medical device field, MIRDC realized the importance of developing integrated service systems and information & communication platforms. As a result, MIRDC teamed up with the Taichung Veterans General Hospital and related manufacturers to establish SCIS (Senior Care Information System) in 2010. Through SCIS, home care services can be provided for seniors who have chronic diseases or sub-health conditions after they are discharged from hospital. In this way, co-branding and added value can also

be built for manufacturers. Due to the success of SCIS, MIRDC received support from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and started to develop quality healthcare support systems in southern region so as to expand service levels and explore business opportunities for industries.

Concerning the healthcare industry, the goal MIRDC always strives toward is to assist manufacturers in producing better products and then create their own brands. Hence, MIRDC assisted Trida Co. to manufacture artificial skin hydrocolloid dressings through the moist wound healing method and create its own brand "IGIBAN." At the same time, MIRDC engaged with medical industries and academia to form Fiberpure Co. The company has successfully developed an artificial kidney and is expected to complete the assembly of production lines in July 2013.

So far MIRDC is seeking opportunities for cooperation with specialized domestic industries, such as chemical fiber, plastics, technology and engineering, in order to develop the clustering industry chain of medical dialyzers. Meanwhile, it provides an alternative for the hemodialysis market which has relied on imports for a long time. In the future, MIRDC plans to team up with industries, expand the brand-new service models into China, and grasp the enormous business opportunities of healthcare in Asia.