May 6th, 2019

Watergen: Bringing drinking water to the world

Context and rationale

The global drinking water crisis is perhaps the most dangerous international issue facing human beings today. With the rise in industrialization, overpopulation, and global warming, growing regions on every continent are facing severe drinking water shortages with no additional sources available. Additionally, as urban infrastructure ages throughout the industrialized world, clean drinking water sources are being poisoned as they make their way to the end user. The crisis is fatal: DATA. And while the drinking water for all was given high priority as one of the UN's Sustainable Development goals, it has become clear that world efforts are not moving quickly enough in order to head off the challenge.

Yet hope can be found all around us – literally, in the water-rich air that makes up our climate. Watergen, the world leader in Atmospheric Water Generation technology (AWG) is solving the world's drinking water crisis through its revolutionary drinking water-from-air devices. Watergen's internationally patented "genius" heat exchanger effectively mimics the condensation of humidity that naturally takes place in the environment, yet does so at an efficiency and efficacy that is unprecedented. Our internationally patent-protected "genius" technology allows Watergen to produce the best quality water at a rate 5x more efficient than any other player in the market. The result is a fully plug and drink solution that delivers a stable, clean, and immediately deliverable alternate source of drinking water directly to those desperately in need of it around the world.

Environmental and Social Impact

In addition to directly addressing and solving Sustainable Development goal number 6, Watergen's solutions support climate mitigation and adaptation in a myriad of ways. First, Watergen's devices require no connection to water infrastructure – they simply create a clean water source directly in your home, office, school, hospital, automobile, or any other place of use. This innovation is tremendously important for the climate, because it eliminates the need for the costly supply chain (plastic containers, fuel intensive shipping, expensive infrastructure that uproots local ecosystems etc.) that pollutes and carbonizes our environment today. Second, through manufacturing facilities and distributors around the world, Watergen is creating new jobs and economic growth. For example, Watergen established a manufacturing facility in the United States in 2018, expecting to create some 400 new jobs as operations ramp up at that site alone. Watergen's AWG technology also provides an alternative water source to increasingly depleted fresh water sites, offering a new opportunity to rehabilitate these natural resources. Finally, Watergen's plug-and-drink solution increases our ability to respond by natural crises and catastrophes by providing fresh mineral water when the central water grid is damaged.

Watergen's Global Presence

Watergen's is an international tech company with offices in Israel and the USA. Watergen works with distributors, strategic partners, government agencies, and international organizations around the world, including in China, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, South Africa, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, EU, and the Middle East, among others. With the need for drinking water clear and present around the world, Watergen's solution can be put into practice in almost
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every area of the globe, and indeed our manufacturing plans support this global need. Watergen has been recognized as the world leader in AWG technology, with the company receiving the 1st prize in the "Tech for a Better World" category from CES and named as a World Economic Forum "Tech Pioneer". However, we know that we cannot tackle the global drinking water crisis alone; and therefore we stand ready to work together with the relevant stakeholders across sectors who are addressing this issue.

Implementation and Measurable Success
Watergen works closely with private and public local stakeholders around the world in order to deliver its solution in a way that meets local needs and customs. For example, in the summer of 2018 the region of Kerala, India was devastated by floods which threatened to stop the pilgrimage that was underway and paralyze the local economy. Watergen sent machines to the area, which enabled the immediate delivery of clean drinking water and allowed the pilgrimage to continue apace. This is how Watergen’s impact can be measured: by people drinking clean water who had no access to it before, by plastics and pollution eliminated from the environment, and by the increasing use of our effective AWG technology in crises and emergency situations. This local approach is critical to Watergen's delivery strategy – be it with distributors, strategic partners, or public-private initiatives, Watergen takes a multi-stakeholder approach in order to deploy its solutions. Furthermore, mechanisms for funding can vary depending on the project, region, and partnership structure. Joint ventures, are oftentimes the correct mechanism because it allows for real buy-in and partnership from the various stakeholders in order to address the problem together. In other instances, distribution agreements or subscription models are appropriate as well.

Climate Action Work-streams
Watergen’s revolutionary solution contributes and dovetails with several other work-streams being undertaken by the Climate Action Summit. First, the products produce support industry transition efforts across the drinking water supply chain, in addition to the emergency preparedness and climate resiliency awareness that is gaining momentum internationally. Additionally, Watergen’s solutions are extremely disruptive for the infrastructure sector: both for water infrastructure and for other infrastructure projects that take place in remote environments and require clean drinking water for employees and indigenous populations. Finally, the lack of access to clean drinking water is the direct or indirect cause of countless diseases and deaths around the world. Watergen's technology strengthens public health and safety, promoting political stability and the good of the public.