

Hong Kong plans innovative public healthcare solutions

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Partnership launch new joint venture to develop and promote innovative public healthcare and hygiene solutions



Hong Kong based Avalon SteriTech Limited and US headquartered SoftBank Robotics Group (SBRG) have announced a joint venture focusing on the development of innovative products and technologies that strive to empower and benefit public health and well-being.

The joint venture leverages Avalon's strengths in biotechnology and healthcare, and SBRG's expertise in AI, automation and robotics to introduce intelligent and effective solutions that transcend conventional concepts of hygiene.

Avalon and SBRG, jointly see cleaning and bio-decontamination, i.e. "Beyond the Visible", as a way to raise public confidence and achieve a greater sense of public and personal safety in Hong Kong and communities worldwide, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic. The technological solutions launched through the joint venture will help strike the perfect balance between biocidal efficacy and responsible use of chemicals.

"With the launch of our products and technologies, we look forward to accelerating the adoption of smarter, more environmental friendly and healthy solutions around the world and spark a new era for public health and hygiene practice," said Mr Lewis Ho, Chief Executive Officer of Avalon SteriTech.

"We have been reviewing many disinfectant formats to enhance Whiz with an add-on function to deliver thorough floorcare cleaning and achieve disinfection efficacy. Avalon SteriTech is able to fulfil the high environmental regulatory standards after our extensive collaborative research work with them. We believe this partnership with Avalon SteriTech will continue to bring

us from strength to strength as we endeavour to pursue and design new products and robotic solutions which will be able to address the new public health requirements," said Mr Kenichi Yoshida, Chief Business Officer of SoftBank Robotics Corp.

As a newly established joint venture, Avalon Robotics will play a key role in global product planning, research and development, business development, marketing, sales and distribution of *Whiz Gambit* and other technologies. The immediate goal of the joint venture is to introduce bio-decontamination capabilities to Whiz, the industry-leading autonomous AI cleaning robot. The agreement will be operationally managed by Avalon, who will become SBRG's first and the only global disinfection sprayer partner. It will also pave the way for future collaborations and technologies as both companies look towards new potential markets in Hong Kong and globally.