

Monitoring health with a bracelet?

13 January 2015 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

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Singapore: Korea-based medical device developer, InBody, recently unveiled a new bracelet that can check vital health parameters and reveal the wearer's health condition.

In his recent interview to a leading daily, Mr Cha Ki-chul, president, InBody, said that the watch-sized product, namely, InLab, would be the world's first wearable device capable of analyzing a user's body composition, especially body water, proteins, minerals and body fat.

Mr Ki-chul explained that upon placing the thumb and index finger on the electronic device some figures flashed up on the screen, that reveal the health statistics. The device is being displayed at the CES-the world's biggest consumer electronics convention that kicked off on Tuesday in Las Vegas for a four-day run.

Showcasing the product at the international trade show Mr Ki-chul said that there was a huge demand and growth potential for wearable devices. "We may be the only company in the world with technology where a big and heavy conventional body composition analyzer can be reduced to as small as a bracelet," Mr Ki-chul said. "The device with higher accuracy will be particularly useful for elderly citizens or patients who need to check their body condition frequently."

The bracelet needs further assessment and the device's accuracy needs to be improved further he added. Describing his product as half-done, Mr Ki-chul said that the wearable analyzer will be upgraded with a telecommunication system so that its wearers will be able to instantly make emergency calls in the event of abrupt health problems.

InBody is already the world's leading maker of body composition analyzers. Its products are installed at tens of thousands of

gyms, hospitals, schools and government buildings in some 60 countries. Among them are the US Navy Seals, the US Army, the US Department of Veteran Affairs, the West Point, Johns Hopkins Hospital, GE Healthcare, Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, Google, Boeing and Colombia University, to list just a few.