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ResMed's new factory brings it closer to meeting CPAP demand after Philips recall

January 10, 2023 By Chris Newmarker

The opening of a new plant — billed as the biggest of its kind on Earth — brings ResMed closer to catching up with skyrocketing CPAP demand.

That was one of the big takeaways from ResMed CEO Mick Farrell's talk at the annual J.P Morgan Healthcare Conference in San Francisco yesterday. The San Diego-based company has found supply chain challenges hindering its ability to meet the demand that surged after a serious recall forced competitor Philips out of the market.



The AirSense 11 CPAP system [Image courtesy of ResMed]

"Every month and every quarter we get closer to meeting that demand," Farrell said.

[ResMed held a grand opening for the 270,000-square-foot Singapore plant in November.](#) Farrell yesterday described it as the biggest respiratory devices manufacturing facility on the planet.

"We have the capability in that plant to take the whole of the market's needs for production. So as we ramp up our capabilities for semiconductor chips, we'll be able to take up more of the demand than out there," Farrell said.

Semiconductor supplies remain a challenge. ResMed's connected respiratory devices are competing for chips with the auto industry, so softening demand for vehicles should help ResMed, said President and COO Rob Douglas.

ResMed's advantages in seeking chip supplies included the predictable demand for CPAPs, forecasted volume increases and the ability to extend commitment times for up to many years, Douglas said.

More about the CPAP shortage



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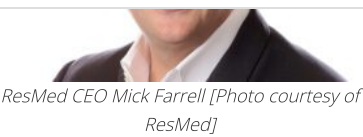
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and BiPAP ventilators and other respiratory devices. The recall involves sound abatement foam that could potentially break down and enter devices' airway paths.



The FDA [announced](#) in November that it has received more than 90,000 reports of problems, including 260 mentioning deaths. The news came shortly after the FDA and Philips said there were [new problems](#) in some ventilators that were reworked as part of the company's massive respiratory device recall.

The shortages produced by the recall have created a situation where some patients have to wait up to 12 weeks to receive a CPAP after a sleep apnea diagnosis, Farrell said. He said it was wrong for people with a medical condition to wait that long for treatment.

Said Farrell: "There's still excess patient demand, and we see that as a humanitarian emergency."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



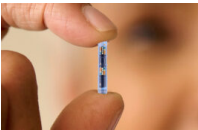
Chris Newmarker

Chris Newmarker is the executive editor of WTW Media life science's news websites and publications including MassDevice, Medical Design & Outsourcing and more. A professional journalist of 18 years, he is a veteran of UBM (now Informa) and The Associated Press whose career has taken him from Ohio to Virginia, New Jersey and, most recently, Minnesota. He's covered a wide variety of subjects, but his focus over the past decade has been business and technology. He holds bachelor's degrees in journalism and political science from Ohio State University. Connect with him on [LinkedIn](#) or email at cnewmarker@wtwhmedia.com.



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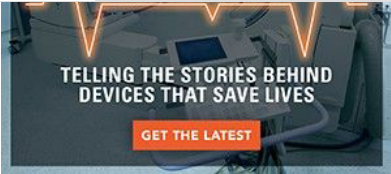
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