

Emerald Touch Inc.

After 35 years of treating musculoskeletal injuries, Michael Glenn had had enough of back pain – and he decided to do something about it.

Glenn is the founder and creator of Emerald Touch Inc. and has designed, prototyped and tested a patent pending device for a lighter than average weight protective-injury prevention support system, which will protect from not only common injuries, but allow the wearer to function at a higher capacity.

“We have some proof of concept products that are showing some great promise,” Glenn said. “We’re preparing to go into further testing with the military.”

Glenn’s product is being tested on soldiers, geared toward military wear as protective gear – but Glenn said there is a broader market that also could benefit from the support system: civilians.

The device soon will be introduced via a civilian version to law enforcement, EMS and other civilian markets. Glenn said the device is near and dear to his heart after years of seeing service people suffering from back pain and injuries due to the weight of the protective gear they provide.

In fact, in 2000, more than \$100 billion dollars was spent on back pain per the Bureau of Labor & Statistics.

Glenn, who founded Emerald Touch in 2007, expects to finalize the engineered version in June and from there – the sky’s the limit.

“The idea is there are so many people out there suffering from protective gear that’s simply too heavy,” Glenn said. “... I was treating that for so long and I got tired of treating things that could possibly be prevented.”

Glenn travels between Texas and Washington, D.C., regularly and has formed promising relationships with several organizations, including Fort Worth’s University of North Texas Health Science Center’s human performance lab. Glenn also is trying to secure federal research funding for his product.

“A lot of people are interested in seeing this come through,” he said. “... The feedback we’ve gotten so far has been very positive.”

Glenn said he is looking forward to an exciting year,



Michael Glenn of Emerald Touch.

PHOTO BY GLEN ELLMAN

possibly being able to introduce his device to all service people – from military to civilian.

“It’s the first spinal prosthesis that will correctly move with the spine for load bearing movements,” he said. “I just want to take those jobs that are harsh on the body and shift the load to the keep the everyday mom and dad feeling good when they go home every night.”

— Aleshia Howe