



## News Release

January 31, 2005  
For immediate release

Contact: Robert Wrublowsky  
204.956.2859  
[bob@hippotech.ca](mailto:bob@hippotech.ca)

### HIPPO Delivers ‘An Ounce of Preventative Maintenance’

Winnipeg, MB—Building and facility preventative maintenance just got a lot easier—and more cost-efficient. Hippo Facility Management Technologies Inc. in partnership with MMP Architects and Winnipeg Technical College announce the latest in preventative maintenance solutions and training. *Hippo* is a unique web-based software system—backed up by customization and professional training—which makes maintaining building operations and equipment easy and reliable.

Utilizing architectural drawings of a facility and basic graphics, the *Hippo* software system identifies all areas of maintenance in the building and provides a detailed report on the parts and equipment requiring service. The system is applicable to new building construction as well as existing facilities. *Hippo Technologies* Business Development director, Robert Wrublowsky, says that building maintenance technicians traditionally have relied on out-dated manuals as references to assist in performing necessary maintenance. “In the past, building and facility maintenance has been reactive instead of preventive,” says Wrublowsky. “The *Hippo* solution provides a system that automatically alerts operations personnel as to which equipment requires maintenance and when. This ‘ounce of prevention’ can save an average of 20% annually on building maintenance costs and also results in a safer facility,” added Wrublowsky. *Hippo* customers are guaranteed a working solution that is beneficial to the overall maintenance management of their facility.

*Hippo* is different than ‘off the shelf’ maintenance management software as it combines responsive IT support, efficient work order scheduling, and detailed equipment information wrapped up in a graphically driven database. All *Hippo* clients receive customized staff training provided by instructors from Winnipeg Technical College (WTC). Doug Kurtz, WTC’s Business Development Manager, says that College staff are excited to be part of such a leading edge business/education partnership. “Our instructors are delighted to be part of the *Hippo* team in delivering a preventative maintenance solution that will extend building life and reduce operating costs,” says Kurtz. “WTC worked closely with MMP Architects in the development of the all-inclusive *Hippo* system and we’re involved in linking the technology with the practical application in the field. We see a great opportunity to expand the *Hippo* solution to entire school

divisions and other publicly funded facilities which would save taxpayers a bundle on facility maintenance,” added Kurtz.

The first facility in Manitoba to use the *Hippo* preventative maintenance solution is the Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre in Norway House. Funded in part by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, this state-of-the-art education resource centre is equipped with the *Hippo* system which will help to prolong the life of the facility. The Centre’s Building Maintenance Manager, Edgar Throop, says “The *Hippo* system saves the Centre time and money on labour, parts and administration every day,” says Throop. “It’s so simple to use and it even lets me know where necessary parts are available for purchase. Filing accurate reports is also easier and with *Hippo* the education resource centre is a safer place for everyone.” Based on the success of the Helen Betty Osborne Centre, the Frontier School Division is considering expanding the *Hippo* program to other schools.

MMP Architects has been serving Manitobans for 68 years and is the oldest architectural firm in the Province. MMP has designed a variety of buildings from high level security offices, hospitality projects, resorts, healthcare, seniors’ residences, educational projects, sports stadiums, churches and community projects. For more information and a virtual tour of *Hippo*, log on to: [www.hippotech.ca](http://www.hippotech.ca)

Winnipeg Technical College is a public institution committed to providing training to secondary and post-secondary learners with a strong focus on transition to employment. Programs provide training in a wide variety of sectors including Health and Human Services, Information Technology and Skilled Trades. For more information visit [www.wtc.mb.ca](http://www.wtc.mb.ca)

-30-

**Contacts:**

Robert Wrublowsky  
President, Business Development  
MMP / Hippo Facility Maintenance Technologies  
Winnipeg, MB  
204.956.2859  
[bob@hippotech.ca](mailto:bob@hippotech.ca)  
[www.hippotech.ca](http://www.hippotech.ca)