



Size: 122.58 sq.cms.

SYRINGE TECHNOLOGY RESCUED

A US-Australian consortium has purchased the intellectual property and assets of Melbourne-based retractable syringe manufacturer **Uni-ject** for over \$4 million.

The new consortium, **ENSI~MED** International, will continue Australian production of the retractable syringes and is establishing a New York office to set up US-based manufacturing and boost world sales.

Uni-ject, located in the Melbourne suburb of Seaford, went into voluntary administration in mid-2002 despite a manufacturing plant producing more than five million syringes per annum and exporting to 10 countries including the US, Holland, Japan and China.

The syringe was developed as the world's first retractable syringe in 1994 and has been approved by the US FDA and US Department of Defense. ENSI~MED has been formed to rescue and build this business.

Benjamin C McGainey, chief executive officer of US operations of ENSI~MED, said the objective was to achieve a much larger scale world-wide roll-out of the safe syringe.

"We have commenced plans for expansion into other major continents as well as scaling up production to target much larger sales in our existing markets," he said.

In August 2003 the US FDA conducted a routine inspection of the plant in Melbourne and endorsed the facility. ENSI~MED's Australian operations are managed by **David Campbell** and the international operations will be managed by **Geoff Cowan**, chief executive officer of ENSI~MED International.