

Does Safe, Clean Air Improve Performance? Horse Says, “Yes”.

Knoxville, TN – September 15, 2021, On a Sunday afternoon in a Lexington, KY stable trainer Tony Alagna installed a patented medical device that disinfects and cleans the air in two-year-old pacer Caviart Camden’s stall. The horse had been scratched as sick from its last race with an upper respiratory infection. Another trainer had a friend who at Knoxville-based MEDformance, a healthcare company that specializes in infectious disease control.

After speaking with members of the company’s executive team about the efficacy of the technology for infections that humans get, one of the devices was placed in a fabricated cage directly above Caviart Camden’s feed and water. The device ran for approximately 48-hours before the colt was next slated to race.

Alagna’s motivation was two-fold:

1. The patented device is manufactured in Dublin, Ireland, by WellAir. It utilizes NanoStrike® nontechnology that deactivates and destroys airborne pathogens (a pathogen is any agent that causes disease, especially a virus, bacterium, or fungus). It has been widely deployed in hospitals including ORs, ICUs, oncology wards, wound care centers, and clean rooms, labs, long-term care facilities, schools, food processing plants, commercial buildings, and more. Most importantly, it has been shown to be effective in healthcare settings at reducing respiratory infections.
2. The device also significantly reduces allergens, pollutants, particulates, and VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds), resulting in cleaner air. Air quality improvements have been shown to improve human performance by 6-9%. On the human side, studies focused on the gains in cognitive ability, recall (audio, visual, reading), work performance, and test scores. But there is also a growing body of evidence showing performance improvements with elite athletes.

What if the ability to best control pathogens that effect horses meant fewer upper respiratory issues? Could this technology help the horses Tony trains spend more time on the track by reducing the risk of infection? Then are the other business benefits:

- If a horse arrives at auction with a runny nose, it can reduce the bid by \$10’s of thousands for standardbred racehorses, and \$100’s of thousands for thoroughbreds. – *if they sell at all.*
- Diseases like the equine flu or strangles can move through a stable in days. Although rarely fatal, infections like these keep horses from racing for 3-weeks to six-months. If the infections spread, the result can be a quarantine for all horses in that stable.

Is the research about air quality and improved human performance also applicable to racehorses? Studies indicate the better air improves cognitive capabilities, learning, recall, critical thinking, test scores, and athletic

performance. Alagna's enquiring mind wanted to know, so he tested the device with a horse that had been scratched from its last scheduled race due to a respiratory infection.

"We were hoping to help clear any remnants of the infection. It was really just about getting this colt recovered to the point where he could race safely. Obviously, we hoped for the best, but 10-days earlier this horse was scratched, and horses can take weeks to recover from a respiratory issue.

To be honest we were elated to have just have him in the race. A win was a reach goal. What actually happened was absolutely the highlight of my career."

Tony Alagna, Trainer for Caviart Camden

So, what happened? Last month at the Kentucky's Red Mile Alagna became the second winningest trainer in U.S. harness racing. He went on to achieve an even bigger milestone that evening. In the 7th race, his trainee, Caviart Camden, broke on the outside from 4th place going into the last turn. He was five lengths back. As the colt closed the distance on the leader, Pebble Beach, it became apparent that he was indeed breathing better.

The race call ended with "*Cavier Camden – Cavier Camden enough to win!*"

And what a win it was. On that Tuesday night in Lexington, Kentucky Caviart Camden ran the best race of his young career. In fact, he ran so well that moments after calling the colt as the winner the announcer added this:

"148 and .3 – A world record!"

The previous world record was set by Sweet Lou in 2011 and equaled by Downbytheseaside in 2016.

Given the incredible success MEDformance VP of Sales Brad Cleaver called to congratulate Alagna and ask if he would like to keep the device in the stall. Tony's response was, "*At this point, it would take a team of Army Rangers to get me to take this thing out of that stall.*"

These technologies also align with integrity in racing initiatives by providing solutions that can help reduce the spread of infection without pharmaceuticals or other treatment protocols that could contain banned substances.

About MEDformance Safer Solutions

MEDformance, located in Knoxville, TN, is an authorized WellAir national distributor that delivers infectious disease control and air quality solutions for healthcare providers, businesses, schools, colleges, and local, state,

and federal entities. Other products and services include clinical testing and diagnostics, healthcare supply chain management, and innovative medical devices.

About WellAir

WellAir's mission is to make the indoor world cleaner and safer. The company's broad range of clean air and surface products are scientifically proven to help safeguard how people work, live and play.

WellAir, headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, with offices in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, and Stamford, Connecticut, is a leading provider of infection control solutions.

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Caviart Camden and

driver Yannick Gringras setting the world record in beating Pebble Beach (Amanda Stephens photo)

LEXINGTON, KY — Tony Alagna trainee Caviart Camden, who has had a run of bad luck with an interference break in round one and then a sick scratch from round two, came firing out in the third \$40,000 round of the Kentucky Championship Series to topple current star Pebble Beach with a world-record harness racing mile on Tuesday (Aug. 24) at The Red Mile.

Pebble Beach, coming into the race having won in the first two preliminaries, swept to the top from third following a :28.2 first quarter and sizzled the teletimer to a :54.3 half and 1:21.2 three-quarters. All the while, Caviart Camden sat in fourth until driver Yannick Gingras steadily pulled the Huntsville colt from the pylons swinging for the homestretch.

Though Pebble Beach kept the speed hot in the straightaway, Caviart Camden kicked for the finish with a :26.1 final quarter to nab victory at the beam by a neck in a **1:48.3 mile**, breaking the world record for a 2-year-old

pacing colt of 1:49 set by Sweet Lou at Woodbine Mohawk Park in 2011 and equaled by Downbytheseaside at The Red Mile in 2016.



Happy winning

connections of Caviart Camden (Amanda Stephens photo)

The time equals the overall fastest mile ever by a 2-year-old, set first by filly Warawee Ubeaut in Lexington in 2018 and matched the following year by stablemate and gelding Elver Hanover.

Wolftrax rallied in the stretch to take third, 1-1/4 lengths behind the winner, while holding off a late bid from River Ness to the finish.

A homebred for Caviart Farms, Caviart Camden won his third race from five starts, earning \$43,200. He paid \$19.60 to win.