

## RESPONSE TO MEDIA ENQUIRY

No release restriction

14 February 2018

### WaterLoo greywater bank: Social media allegations

We had a media launch function for WaterLoo greywater bank on 7 February 2018. This is a water-saving product that I designed. Subsequent to the launch, comments published in the social media made me aware of a Mr. Nkosinathi Nkomo who, according to the social media content, designed a water-saving product branded AquaRenu.

It is important for me to point out that I had never heard of Mr. Nkomo. I've never met him and I did not have any prior knowledge of his product. This was only drawn to my attention after the launch of my, very different, water-saving product.

I wish to point out that WaterLoo greywater bank is an original and distinct product and very unlike what we've subsequently learned about AquaRenu. Not only is WaterLoo greywater water bank based on a totally different design, but its functionality and purpose is for a completely different household application.

#### The differences between the products are fundamental. For example:

- WaterLoo – the product that I've designed from scratch – is used inside a house and placed on top of the toilet cistern. It is filled with greywater from a bucket to add extra flushing capacity to the cistern. It is not connected to the plumbing.
- AquaRenu, on the other hand, is an outdoor product which is coupled to the plumbing system in order to receive greywater from the household and to act as a greywater filter. It has an outlet from where the filtered water can be collected. It is not linked to a toilet.

There are **no similarities** in the concept, design and functionality of the two products. We're dealing with two totally different products and that the allegations that WaterLoo greywater bank is an imitation of the AquaRenu product, are baseless and unfounded.

As industrial designers, we at WaterLoo appreciate the public awareness for the need to save water and the interest in greywater water-saving systems in general.

#### More about WaterLoo greywater bank

WaterLoo is an affordable, easy-to-install and easy-to-use smart greywater storage bank that fits on top of toilet cisterns. It is a non-permanent installation that blends seamlessly with the cistern's design, while integrating with the flushing system. Aesthetically pleasing WaterLoo makes it easy to pour and reuse salvaged household greywater in your toilet.

Compared to pouring greywater from a bucket directly into the toilet bowl or the cistern, aesthetically pleasing WaterLoo provides for additional greywater storage space above the cistern which allows for multi-flushing with only one transfer of greywater. This reduces the frequency of having to manually refill the cistern each time after using the toilet and eliminates the uneasiness of having guests and small children filling cisterns with buckets of greywater after having used the toilet.

WaterLoo doesn't require electricity, plumbing or the use of pumps to function, as the AquaReno does. It is not a greywater harvesting system, as the AquaReno product is, but a functional greywater bank that increases the capacity of a toilet's cistern and at the same time, making it easy to pour greywater from buckets into the greywater bank.

For more information, visit the WaterLoo website on [www.mywaterloo.co.za](http://www.mywaterloo.co.za) or send an e-mail to [info@mywaterloo.co.za](mailto:info@mywaterloo.co.za).

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