

Startup aiming to ensure microbes stay away

By **Mary MacDonald** -June 19, 2020 1:55 am



POWERFUL PRODUCT: Allyson Cote, CEO and president of Ocean State Shields, and Todd Thomas, chief innovation officer, with their product, sd90, a coating that stops micro-organism growth for up to a year on surfaces. / PBN PHOTO/MICHAEL SALERNO

Without making claims specific to the new coronavirus, Ocean State Shields LP says its product – a nontoxic spray-on liquid that disinfects surfaces, including flexible partitions – can kill microbes for up to a year.

The company is owned by CEO Allyson Cote and Chief

Innovation Officer Todd Thomas and is based at Sprout CoWorking Providence in the Rising Sun Mills on Valley Street.

Cote, the co-founder of [Maternova Inc.](#), said the startup began in April, as she and Thomas watched with dismay the effects of COVID-19. They called their contacts and sourced a supply of a nontoxic, antimicrobial treatment, made by a company in Connecticut.

The main ingredient has U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approval, she said. The company is seeking the approval of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Sprout CoWorking spaces will have an application of the product soon. Ocean State Shields is securing agreements with other companies as well, Cote said.

“Right now, when you go into a restaurant, a convenience store, any place, people have put up these flexible barriers. What we’re doing is we have created a product that is treated with an antimicrobial that lasts for ... [up to a year] without losing its efficacy,” Cote said.

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