



Company Information Center

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VERTEBRON INC. ANNOUNCES THEIR FIRST FDA CLEARANCE ON A LOW TORQUE, PEDICLE SCREW SYSTEM AND ITS SUCCESSFUL PRODUCT LAUNCH

STRATFORD, Conn.--April 28, 2004--VERTEBRON Inc. (VERTEBRON) is proud to announce its first FDA clearance on the VERTEBRON PSS™ Pedicle Screw System. The PSS system incorporates a patent pending initial threadless locking and final low torque locking design. VERTEBRON is also planning to release complementary allograft systems within the next quarter.

On February 18, 2004, the VERTEBRON PSS Pedicle Screw System received its FDA clearance. The first surgical cases were then successfully completed within March 2004 at several domestic medical centers. Dr. Kenneth Pettine* and Dr. Jeffrey Donner of McKee Medical Center in Loveland, Colorado utilized the PSS Pedicle Screw system on a number of two level and three level thoracolumbar fusion procedures and commented on the systems' flexibility and overall ease of use in comparison to competitive systems. Dr. Pettine remarked, "This is truly a next generation and the most technologically advanced pedicle screw system I have ever used." Dr. Donner further added, "The surgeries went smoothly, without complications and the patients are doing well."

Surgeries were also performed in Missouri and Ohio. Dr. Kee Park of St. Francis Medical Hospital in Cape Girardeau, MO additionally evaluated potential future applications, including minimally invasive access for thoracolumbar fusions. Dr. Park confirmed, "The PSS system is in fact, very easy to use and is a solid, well conceived evolutionary pedicle screw system that rivals the best systems in the market. In addition to performing well with standard exposures, the PSS system design also lends itself very well for minimally invasive applications." Dr. Gary Kraus, of the Wallace Kettering Neuroscience Institute in Dayton, Ohio, also performed several lumbar fusions with the PSS system. Dr. Kraus stated "The PSS is an elegant system providing advanced implant design and technology, simple straight forward instrumentation and ease of use in the OR." Several additional centers are scheduled to start using the PSS Pedicle Screw System over the course of the next month.

Hosam Afifi, President and CEO for VERTEBRON commented, "We are proud to see our first spinal implant system being very well received by both surgeons and operating room personnel. We are especially pleased to hear the numerous comments regarding the ease of use and streamlined instrumentation associated with this first system release."

VERTEBRON is a closely held medical device company that has developed spinal implant technologies, including artificial discs (motion preservation), cervical plates, pedicle screw and interbody (fusion) systems through the integration of spinal, orthopaedic and total joint technologies. VERTEBRON's advanced motion preservation devices, fusion technologies and breakthrough spinal implant designs will be strategically marketed to establish the company as a leading provider of innovative next-generation solutions. The comprehensive product offering provides surgeons with simplified surgical techniques, enhanced intra-operative flexibility and reliable instrumentation. For more information, please visit www.VERTEBRON.com.

This release may contain forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, projections of future performance and regulatory approvals, subject to risks and uncertainties. These statements are subject to change based on known risks detailed from time to time in VERTEBRON's Business Plan and stock offering documents and other known and unknown risks and various other factors, which could cause the actual results or performance to differ materially from the statements made herein.

Dr. Kenneth Pettine* is a co-inventor of the Maverick™ artificial disc. Maverick is a trademark of Medtronic Sofamor Danek.

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