



Company Information Center

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**VERTEBRON™ INC. PROUDLY ANNOUNCES A CLINICAL HISTORY MILESTONE WITH THE PSS™ PEDICLE SCREW SYSTEM WHICH UTILIZES A UNIQUE INITIAL THREADLESS, LOW TORQUE LOCKING DESIGN**

STRATFORD, Conn.—June 28, 2005—VERTEBRON Inc. (VERTEBRON) is proud to announce over fifteen months successful clinical history with the Pedicle Screw System (PSS), its first system release with over 300 surgeries. The PSS is unique in many aspects, including its initial threadless and low-torque locking design. As a result of its simplicity and intuitive designs which integrated advanced “leapfrog” technologies from orthopaedic and spine sub-specialties, the PSS system experienced rapid adoption and penetration into leading spine centers as a surgeon-friendly, “easy to use” system.

The system’s overall ease of use and unique locking design captured the interests of many surgeons using competitive threaded locking mechanisms. In addition to unparalleled screw angulation (up to 84°) and low torque locking (65 in-lbs.), the PSS system is also designed to use as few as five instruments for most procedures. Surgeons also commended the system for its inherent versatility with both open and minimally-invasive surgery (MIS) procedures. Operating room staff furthermore praised the system for its streamlined offering of easy to use implants and instruments.

Dr. Kenneth Pettine of McKee Medical Center in Loveland, Colorado stated, “I performed my first surgery with the PSS system in March 2004 and have had no implant complications at all. Clearly, the threadless locking design is very innovative and the system is extremely surgeon-friendly. In fact, VERTEBRON is a very surgeon-friendly company and has quickly responded to every implant and instrument suggestion.”

Dr. Jeffrey Donner, also of McKee Medical Center in Loveland, Colorado added, “It has been over one year since the first implantation with the PSS system and the patient demonstrated a solid fusion and is doing well clinically. After using several other pedicle screw systems since then, I am even more appreciative of the system’s benefits. The significant angulation offered by the PSS screw and the pre-contoured rods have saved a significant amount of valuable OR time. I am also pleased with the rapid instrument improvements which have further enhanced the system’s flexibility. I look forward to the future innovations and technologies from VERTEBRON.”

Dr. Robert Dixon of Columbus Neurosurgical Group in Columbus, OH remarked, “The PSS system’s unique locking mechanism does not allow for cross threading nor inadequate rod contact. The screw cap fits in perfect position relative to the rod. Also, the increased angulation with the screw head allows for greater flexibility, thereby extending its ease of use and security.”

Finally, Dr. Kee Park of St. Francis Medical Hospital in Cape Girardeau, MO commented, “Many of the PSS system enhancements made over the past year have resulted in further reducing my operative time with both open and MIS procedures. For example, the locking cap design was enhanced to allow for easier rod capture and seating which improved the system’s versatility with both Wiltse and other MIS approaches, despite minimized operative views.

Hosam Afifi, President and CEO for VERTEBRON concluded, “The PSS system has performed extremely well and proven its unique design and inherent versatility. It’s especially rewarding to hear that our innovations have been well received and set new standards for spinal implant systems. We are very proud to pass this significant milestone with our first system release and look forward to the same success with our other releases spanning cervical and interbody innovations, with more to follow.”

VERTEBRON is a privately-held, medical device company that has developed spinal implants, including artificial discs (motion preservation), cervical plates, pedicle screws and interbody fusion systems through the integration of spinal, orthopaedic and total joint technologies. VERTEBRON’s advanced spinal motion preservation devices, fusion technologies and breakthrough designs are strategically positioned to establish the company as a leading provider of next-generation spinal implant solutions. VERTEBRON’s comprehensive product portfolio offers simplified surgical techniques with enhanced intra-operative flexibility and innovative instrumentation to spinal surgeons worldwide. For more information, please visit [www.VERTEBRON.com](http://www.VERTEBRON.com).

Any statements in this press release about future expectations, plans and prospects for the Company, including statements containing the words “believes,” “anticipates,” “plans,” “expects,” “will,” and similar expressions, constitute forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, risks and uncertainties. These statements are subject to change based on risks detailed from time to time in VERTEBRON’s Business Plan and other documents and other known and unknown risks and factors, which could cause the actual results or performance to differ materially from the statements made. Do not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which reflect our analysis only and speak only as of the date hereof. Of course, all of VERTEBRON’s motion preservation devices will only be released subject to investigational device exemptions or pre-market approval from the FDA.

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