

COLLABORATIONS

Invio® entered into an agreement with Upchurch Scientific which will enable customers to purchase pre-certified, Invio manufactured, PEEK-CLASSIX™ polymer directly from Upchurch Scientific. Invio's PEEK-CLASSIX polymer is a thermoplastic designed for medical device applications requiring blood or tissue contact of less than 30 days.

Precimed entered into an agreement with Praxim Medivision. The companies will integrate image-guided surgical technology in support of the UKI™, an 8-in-1 femoral knee cutting guide.

UTI changed its name to Accellent as a reflection of the company's strategic direction. Accellent serves the medical device market through three focused divisions: Orthopaedics, Endoscopy and Cardiology. In June, the company acquired Minneapolis-based MedSource Technologies, Inc.

Ionbond and Bodycote PVD Division, SSCP Coatings Limited and Bodycote International signed a merger agreement on October 29, 2004. The group will trade under the name of Ionbond.

CAPABILITIES

C&W Swiss Inc., is pleased to be adding equipment its facility due to an increase of customer demand for capacity, including a new Star Swiss Style multi-axes machining center and a new Crest ultrasonic cleaner with a DI water system.

Degage Corporation introduces its product line addition of "ultra clean" anti-static nylon bags and films for the critical packaging of medical parts such as medical instruments, implants, orthopaedic devices, spinal products, and neurosurgical devices as well as ceramics, thin films and fiber optics.

MicroGroup has acquired a PUMA 230MS CNC that is capable of producing precision parts from tube and bar stock with outside diameters greater than 1" (25.4mm), and as large as 2-1/2" (63.5mm). MicroGroup also acquired a new Chiyoda SP-8SST 3-axis dual radius bending machine, capable of single, multiple or multi-plane bends.

Tecomet Inc. increased its capabilities by adding one 5-Axis Machining Center and one Robo Drill 5-Axis Machining Center, both dedicated to Spinal Implants. In addition, Tecomet has acquired two CNC Machine Centers to increase its Knee Cell capacity, and a 700 Ton Press and a Hard Die Miller to its Forging facility. The Company also announces the addition of a full Chemical Passivation Line for Joint Implants.

Unique Instruments, Inc., a global leader in contract manufacturing services for the orthopaedic medical device market, has launched an independent contract product development company, Unique Design and Development, LLC.

CERTIFICATIONS

Beere Medical received patent #6,783,004 for its Evolution™ Spinal Implant Removal Kit, and patent #6,799,480 for its axial torque measuring instrument. The company was also awarded patent #6,807,883 for its combination axial and T-handle driver.

Nuell, Inc.™ was issued patent #6,802,103 for the Nuell, Inc. Cleaning T-handle.

RECOGNITIONS

C&W Swiss Inc., specializing in Swiss Style Machining of Complex Precision Components, has received recertification through WBENC (Women's Business Enterprise National Council).

Paragon Medical, Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of Kees de Louw as European Business Development Manager to its growing European division.

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