

COLLABORATIONS

Accellent signed a definitive merger agreement with affiliates of **Kohlberg Kravis Roberts** in a transaction valued at ~\$1.27 billion, expected to close by the end of 2005. No changes are currently contemplated in Accellent's strategy or operations.

Accellent acquired **Machining Technology Group** (MTG), which specializes in rapid prototyping and manufacturing of instruments for orthopaedic device companies. MTG's focuses primarily on spine products, and makes instruments used in knee and hip replacements and trauma procedures.

Under terms of a new agreement, **Leis Partners** will serve as the marketing and sales arm for **Advantis Medical**, provider of custom delivery systems for the orthopaedic and medical markets.

Summit Corporate Services renewed an agreement to provide ongoing services (e.g. patient pre-screening for clinical trials, inventory management, records maintenance, etc.) for **Stryker Spine's** Motion Prevention unit and the FlexiCore and CerviCore intervertebral disc replacements.

VIASYS Healthcare acquired **Intermed Precision**, an ISO 13488 registered developer and supplier of orthopaedic instruments, implants and micro-machined components used in minimally invasive surgical devices in Ireland.

CAPABILITIES

Millstone Medical launched the Loaner Expedite Program, a streamlined system that minimizes the OEM's inventory, shipping and labor costs and time to deliver fully-inspected surgical kits to operating rooms.

Precimed announces **Precimed Asia**, its new operations in Guangzhou, China, joining the company's operations in Switzerland, the U.S., Japan and the U.K. This new office will provide the additional help needed to support new and existing sales as well as logistical follow through on projects for Asian customers.

Precimed closed a CHF 34MM equity transaction (~\$27MM USD) to fund the company's organic growth and enable strategic acquisitions.

Symmetry Medical opened Symmetry Medical Cheltenham Ltd., a 25,000 square foot facility in the U.K. to provide Total Solutions®, design services, co-development, prototypes, project management and Symmetry products in Europe.

Specialty Blades/IncisionTech will invest \$6MM to expand its facility in Staunton, Virginia. The company manufactures precision cutting and piercing components; its IncisionTech division focuses solely on OEM medical device applications. The project will create 25 new jobs and includes the addition of a 28,000 sq. ft. facility.

VIASYS® Orthopedics/Tecomet™ opened LaunchQuick™, a dedicated Process Development Center in its Wilmington, Massachusetts facility. The center will produce first articles, small batches for testing and lab evaluation and pre-series for clinical evaluation. LaunchQuick is equipped with 4-Axis and 5-Axis Machining Centers, as well as a 9-Axis Integrated Machining Center. In addition, the company has added a 1,300 ton press to its forging facility.

CERTIFICATIONS

C&W Swiss Inc. has been recommended for ISO 9001:2000 certification, successfully completing an audit without any non-conformances or minor non-conformances.

Gauthier Biomedical secured patent number 6,948,605 for an exclusive ratcheting mechanism used in their extended line of screwdrivers, designed to limit axial and side-to-side "play" between the shaft and the handle. The design is available in a number of silicone handle styles and instrument configurations.

Gauthier Biomedical has been recommended for ISO 13485:2003 certification. Further, for the 2nd consecutive year, the company is named to the Milwaukee's Future 50 list of successful and growing companies. The company supplies instruments in the handheld orthopaedic and spinal instrumentation market.

Holmed Corporation was approved for 13485 certification by TUV. The company now has full design capabilities as well as a complete manufacturing facility dedicated to spine, knees, hip, and shoulder instruments and implant development.

The 1st implantable medical device using **Invio's** PEEK-OPTIMA® polymer received regulatory clearance in Japan. The arthroscopy device is a tissue repair system used in shoulder procedures. PEEK-OPTIMA polymer is a thermoplastic designed for medical device applications requiring blood or tissue contact of more than 30 days. The inherently radiolucent polymer can be modified to offer varying degrees of radiopacity, and enables clear visualization through imaging techniques such as x-ray, Computer Tomography and MRI.

RECOGNITIONS

Wayne E. Roberts has joined **The Electroizing Corporation of OHIO** as its chief chemist, and Mark Stover has been appointed to serve as the metal finishing company's new quality manager. As chief chemist, Mr. Roberts will lead the company's ongoing research and development efforts. Mr. Stover plans to refine the information path from the customer to the production floor and take a more preventive approach to solving quality issues. He is currently overseeing the ISO audit to maintain Electroizing's registration to ISO 9001:2000. The metal finishing company specializes in advanced coatings for medical and other high-tech products.

New England Precision Grinding was awarded a Workforce Training Fund Grant from the state of Massachusetts. The company intends to incorporate lean manufacturing into its production processes.

OMTEC 2006, the **Second Annual Orthopaedic Manufacturing & Technology Exposition and Conference**, will be held June 21-22, 2006 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois.