

Press Release: June 2008

joimax[®] revolutionizes spine surgery with the launch of newest and fully-endoscopic product innovations to treat spinal canal stenosis

Karlsruhe, June 2nd 2008: The joimax[®] company in Karlsruhe, Germany, is the first company in the medical industry which developed a unique instrumentation for the treatment of spinal canal stenosis. Having this degenerative disease at the spinal column, bony excrescences (osteophytes) narrow the spinal canal and drastically limit the motoric and sensoric function of the affected person. The so called **360° TESSYS™ Spinal Stenosis System**, which has been realized in cooperation with Dr. Rudolf Morgenstern, Barcelona, Spain (Centro Médico de Terapia de la Columna), enables surgeons to completely remove this osseous/bony material under direct endoscopic view through the vertebral foramen. Especially relating to elderly people in industrialised countries, spinal canal stenosis is a frequent growing disease of the spine. So far, affected patients are operated, if possible, with the open microsurgical method under full anaesthesia, what however causes bigger tissue damage and may result in instability of the spinal column. “With our new method the patient is under local anaesthetics and via a fingernail-like cut the minimal access to the stenosis is enabled. Surrounding tissue is hardly damaged and thanks to new endoscopic reamers and chisels allowing removal of osteophytes, so that treated patients can leave the hospital already a few hours after the surgery” explains Dr. Rudolf Morgenstern.

A further product innovation revolutionizing spinal surgery is the so called **iLESSYS™ – inter-Laminar Endoscopic Surgical System**. It enables the fully dorsal endoscopic access to the lamina and to the spinal canal, which in a stenotic patient situation is heavily compressing all structures. “With **iLESSYS™** and together with the **TESSYS™ Stenosis System** a full **360°** spinal canal treatment offering is now made available for tissue, but if indicated, also for bony decompression procedures,” summarizes Wolfgang Ries, founder and CEO of the joimax[®] GmbH.

Both new instrumentations are based on the **TESSYS™ – Transforaminal Endoscopic Surgical System**, an operation technique and method which is used worldwide for the removal of lumbar disc herniations. Surgeons are regularly offered the opportunity to familiarize themselves with this sophisticated platform technology by using the instruments in hands-on sessions, and at the same time exchange experiences with their peers. For example during the **Spineweek, Geneva, Switzerland, May 27th – 31st 2008**, at which joimax had organized a lunch symposium and showed good presence at the industrial exhibition. Further events with joimax[®] are:

DGNC – 59th Annual Conference of the German Society for Neurosurgery, held **June, 1st – 4th 2008 in Würzburg, Germany**: joimax® is represented with a booth exhibition and is again organising a Lunch-Symposium for TESSYS™. Additionally at

The 1st WCISST – World Congress of Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery & Techniques, **June, 3rd –7th 2008 in Honolulu, Hawaii**: Here joimax® offers Cadaver Workshops on June 3rd and 4th, besides presenting its latest new products at the industrial exhibition.

Another next innovation of the joimax® product portfolio is the **Video TWISTER**, a unique electronic device enabling a **360° video rotation** continuously adjustable. Additionally a zoom in magnification and an image centring function is made available.

About joimax®: The young medical devices company is focusing on combined minimal access technologies („**joined minimal access technologies**“), especially for spinal treatment. joimax® develops, manufactures and markets as unique player highly sophisticated and user friendly platform systems for endoscopic spinal surgery, which are evolving by experience and which are well evaluated to succeed. Due to education and multi-year business experience of its employees joimax® has gained core competencies in medical devices, systems, hard- and software, instruments, endoscopes, disposables, implants and even radiation protection. It also offers a well thought-out Education Program that comprises three steps: Firstly attending a workshop, then a visitation at one of the reference centres, and finally conducting first own surgeries together with experienced application specialists. With this, the best possible training is being guaranteed.

joimax® sees itself as a partner for the treating medical doctor with the aim: *help treating patients!*

Further information please find on: www.joimax.com

Contact : joimax® GmbH
Adriana Oldiges
Marketing Communication Manager
An der RaumFabrik 33a
Amalienbadstraße 36
76227 Karlsruhe
Phone: +49 721 255 14 314
Fax: +49 721 255 14 920
Mail: adriana.oldiges@joimax.com
Net: www.joimax.com