

The StabiLink™ MIS Spinal Fixation System Offers New Minimally Invasive Option for Spine Surgeons

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Macon, Georgia - Southern Spine, LLC, an ISO 13485:2003 certified manufacturer of implants and instruments for spinal surgery, announced today the launch of its new <u>StabiLink™ MIS Spinal Fixation System</u> that has recently received its FDA clearance and CE Mark. The minimally invasive system is designed to provide spinal fixation in lumbar fusion procedures, including the treatment of degenerative disc disease, spinal tumors and trauma.

"We believe StabiLink™ MIS Spinal Fixation System represents 'the best first option' for many patients and can be used to treat a number of spinal conditions with much less tissue trauma than traditional spinal fixation systems," states Southern Spine CEO David Field. "Patients and surgeons are demanding procedures that fill the void between non-surgical spine treatments and the more traditional, invasive spinal fusion procedures. The StabiLink™ MIS Spinal Fixation System successfully addresses this "void" in treatment options for many patients and surgeons."

The principal benefit of the <u>StabiLinkTM MIS Spinal Fixation System</u> is that it is placed between the spinous processes, away from the neural elements including the spinal cord and spinal nerves. The implant is placed through a 2-4 cm incision in the back using the innovative, patented <u>PGTM Precision Guided Inserter/Compressor</u>. The PG Inserter/Compressor is an <u>All-in-One instrument</u> that redefines ease-of-use and allows the surgeon to quickly and accurately place the <u>StabiLinkTM implant</u> with or without removal of the interspinous ligaments. In addition, implant insertion and compression is safely achieved without the need for multiple instruments, including "bulky" compressors, reducing overall procedure time. The anterior "tray" design of the <u>StabiLinkTM implant</u> creates an ideal containment area for the maximum amount of bone graft material to optimize bony fixation between the spinous process.

The market for spinous process fixation devices is expected to reach greater than \$200 million by 2016, as part of the growing sector of minimally invasive spinal procedures. (Source: iData 2010)

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US Patent Number 8,419,738 and other USA and International Patents Pending

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