

Minnie Support Catheter

COMPANY	Vascular Solutions, Inc.
PHONE	(763) 656-4300
WEB	www.vascularsolutions.com
KEY FEATURES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tapered distal tip and low crossing profile • Embedded radiopaque markers • Hydrophilic coating for smooth delivery • Single-layer polymer design 	

The Minnie support catheter (Vascular Solutions, Inc., Minneapolis, MN) is the newest addition to the Vascular Solutions endovascular toolbox. The new catheter is designed to provide superior guidewire support and exchange for complex interventions, with versions designed for use with .014-, .018- and .035-inch guidewires.



According to the company, the Minnie support catheter features a smoothly tapered distal tip to facilitate guidewire control, combined with a low crossing profile for navigating small vessels and crossing tight lesions. Its single-layer polymer design offers flexibility with exceptional tracking, while its fully embedded radiopaque markers—a unique feature that eliminates exposed metal—allow the operator to easily confirm positioning and assess lesion length. The Minnie support catheter is currently available in the US and Europe.

Gore Flow Reversal System

COMPANY	W. L. Gore & Associates
PHONE	(800) 437-8181
WEB	www.goremedical.com
KEY FEATURES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes protection prior to crossing the lesion • Continuously directs macro- and micro-emboli away from the brain during flow reversal • Expands treatment options for broad patient populations 	

W. L. Gore & Associates (Flagstaff, AZ) recently announced that the Food and Drug Administration has given the company 510(k) clearance to market the Gore Flow Reversal System. According to the company, this new technology minimizes the risk of emboli reaching the brain during critical stages of carotid artery stenting. The Gore Flow Reversal System is a unique neuroprotection technology that reverses the flow of blood at the treatment site before crossing the lesion. Flow reversal is achieved by selectively occluding common carotid and external carotid artery blood flow. By establishing an arteriovenous shunt, blood from collateral vessels via the Circle of Willis is redirected to the lower pressure venous return. Daniel G. Clair, MD, FACS, of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and national co-principal investigator for the Gore EMPIRE Clinical Study, stated, "The Gore Flow Reversal System is not only a significant advancement in neuroprotection, it is an important step forward for carotid stenting that may help establish carotid stenting as the therapy of choice for a greater number of patients."



Cross-Pilot Laser Support Catheter

COMPANY	Spectranetics Corporation
PHONE	(719) 447-2000
WEB	www.spectranetics.com
KEY FEATURES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added strength to help reach even the most distal lesions • Improved selection of the branched vessels is possible with the angled support tip • Targeted saline flush and contrast infusion capabilities 	

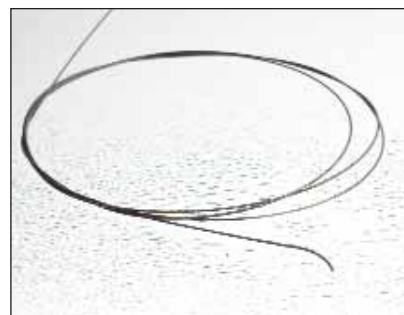
Spectranetics Corporation (Colorado Springs, CO) announced the US availability of the Cross-Pilot Laser Support Catheter. The Cross-Pilot provides additional strength and support for the Turbo Elite laser catheter in the peripheral anatomy with its braided stainless steel reinforcement and provides a conduit for the delivery of saline solutions or diagnostic contrast agents. The catheter is available in a straight or angled tip configuration. Both models have three radiopaque markers spaced equally along the distal shaft to aid in estimating geometry within the vascular system. The distal radiopaque marker is positioned within 3 mm of the distal catheter tip. A standard female luer is placed on the proximal end of each model. The catheter is coated with a lubricious, hydrophilic coating.



Galt Glide Hydrophilic Guidewire

COMPANY	Galt Medical Corporation
PHONE	(800) 639-2800
WEB	www.galtmedical.com
KEY FEATURES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced radiopacity • Intermediate stiffness • Quick, sustainable lubricity • High torque • Lubricity+ hydrophilic coating 	

Galt Medical Corporation (Garland, TX), known for performance-based microintroducers, tearaway introducers, and guidewires, has recently introduced the Galt Glide plastic-clad hydrophilic guidewire into its portfolio of products. The Galt Glide is now one of the leading guidewires for quick hydration and sustainable lubricity. Designed with technology and precision in mind, the Galt Glide premium guidewire is stiff enough to aid in pushability yet flexible enough for standard procedures, the company stated.



FiberNet Embolic Protection System

COMPANY	Invatec, Inc./Lumen Biomedical
PHONE	(877) 4-INVATEC
WEB	www.invatec.com www.lumenbio.com
KEY FEATURES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No delivery system required • Crossing profile ranging from 2.4 to 2.9 F • Fiber-based filter conforms to asymmetrical vessels • Captures emboli as small as 40 μm • Filter removed through single-lumen aspiration catheter 	

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved the FiberNet Embolic Protection System for the treatment of patients receiving endovascular intervention for carotid artery disease. The FiberNet system is designed and manufactured by Lumen Biomedical (Plymouth, MN) and distributed by Invatec (Bethlehem, PA). The FiberNet system features a three-dimensional design composed of a matrix of fibers that allows for the entrapment of smaller particles and better overall capture efficiency. The low-profile filter is mounted on a guidewire, needing no delivery system to cross the lesion. The system treats vessels ranging from 3.5 to 7 mm. Its unique design ensures excellent wall apposition, the company stated.

"The FiberNet EPS has demonstrated impressive results and excellent safety profile," commented Dr. Subbarao Myla, medical director of cardiovascular research and endovascular intervention at Hoag Memorial Hospital in California and national principal investigator for the trial. "In the EPIC trial, the device achieved the lowest stroke rate of any filter currently available, making FiberNet a top choice for physicians and represents the next generation in embolic protection." ■



EURO INNOVATIONS A preview of Europe's new products



In.Pact Amphirion

COMPANY	Invatec
PHONE	+41 52 260 06 80
WEB	www.invatec.com
KEY FEATURES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FreePac coating formulation • Local paclitaxel elution within seconds • Low-dose effectiveness • Confirmed bioequivalence to competitive coatings • Market-leading Amphirion Deep balloon platform 	

Invatec S.p.A. (Roncadelle, Italy), a comprehensive innovator of interventional products, announced the European launch of a new peripheral balloon, the In.Pact Amphirion paclitaxel-eluting percutaneous transluminal angioplasty (PTA) balloon catheter. This is the first drug-eluting catheter designed specifically to treat atherosclerosis in arteries located below the knee. In.Pact Amphirion features FreePac, a proprietary coating that frees and separates paclitaxel molecules and facilitates their absorption into the wall of the artery. A low dosage of 3 μ g/mm² balloon surface results in effective treatment outcomes. The drug-elution time is reduced to 30 to 60 seconds. The In.Pact Amphirion is 4-F compatible in all sizes (2–4-mm diameters) and available in 40-, 80-, and 120-mm balloon lengths. The balloon platform is the Amphirion Deep PTA catheter, which is .014-inch wire compatible and features Flexitec Ultra balloon material, which shows exceptional conformability, the company stated. ■

