Atlantis 018 Peripheral Imaging Catheter

COMPANY	Boston Scientific Corporation
PHONE	(888) 272-1001
WEB	www.bostonscientific.com

KEY FEATURES

- 8 mm of vessel penetration
- .018-inch maximum guidewire compatibility
- 6-F guide catheter compatibility
- 40 MHz transducer
- 15-cm pullback

Boston Scientific Corporation (Natick, MA) announced FDA clearance to market its Atlantis 018 Peripheral Imaging Catheter, which is indicated for use in the ultrasound imaging of peripheral vessels. The Atlantis 018 Catheter is an intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) device that uses a 40-MHz rotational ultrasound transducer to create two-dimensional images of the interior of peripheral vascular anatomy to help in the diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease and treatment, the company says. The Atlantis 018 is designed for small vessel peripheral imaging and is indicated for use in peripheral vessels up to 8 mm in diameter. The Atlantis 018 Catheter is the newest member of the peripheral IVUS catheter family, which also includes the Atlantis PV Peripheral Imaging Catheter, indicated for vessels up to 30 mm, and the Sonicath Ultra 9 Peripheral Imaging Catheter, indicated for vessels up to 50 mm. The Atlantis 018 Catheter is indicated for use with Boston Scientific Corporation's Galaxy^2 Ultrasound Imaging System and the iLab Imaging System.

EkoSonic Endovascular System

COMPANY	Ekos Corporation
PHONE	(888) 400-3567
WEB	www.ekoscorp.com

KEY FEATURES

- Designed with Rapid Pulse Modulation
- Unique MicroSonic core within an Intelligent Drug Delivery Catheter
- Seven treatment zones, 6 to 50 cm
- 106- and 135-cm working-length catheters, both 5 F compatible
- Highly visual iconic control unit display

Ekos Corporation (Bothell, WA) established a standard for safety and completeness in dissolving clots with its first-generation endovascular system, the EndoWave. With FDA clearance, the introduction of the second-generation EkoSonic Endovascular System with Rapid Pulse Modulation continues with the strengths of the EndoWave while shortening the time to lyse. In testing, the EkoSonic system dissolved thrombus twice as fast as earlier Ekos systems and four times faster than conventional catheter-directed thrombolysis, with no evidence of thrombus breakage or hemolysis, the company says. Less time to complete dissolution means less thrombolytic drug dosage, lowering the risk of any complications so interventionists can treat the patient with greater clinical confidence. According to the company, the innovation behind this breakthrough technology is Ekos's Rapid Pulse Modulation, which manipulates the physical attributes of the microsonic energy penetrating into the clot. Exposing the clot to the microsonic energy increases its permeability to the lytic. In laboratory tests with identical samples, Rapid Pulse Modulation demonstrated greater clot permeability and drug penetration, resulting in accelerated dissolution.

Axis .035-Inch Specialty Guidewire

COMPANY	Vascular Solutions, Inc.
PHONE	(763) 656-4300
WEB	www.vascularsolutions.com

KEY FEATURES

- Highly flexible and long distal tip
- Extra-stiff proximal shaft
- Precoated with a smooth polytetrafluoroethylene coating
- 90-cm length

Vascular Solutions, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN) recently launched the Axis Wire, a .035-inch specialty guidewire that combines an extra-stiff proximal shaft with a long super-floppy distal tip.

According to the company, the Axis Wire is designed to offer the benefits of easy delivery combined with the protection of an atraumatic tip. Its heavy-duty proximal shaft provides support and pushability for device delivery, while its highly flexible and long distal tip facilitates atraumatic access and device placement. The coils of the Axis wire are precoated with a smooth polytetrafluoroethylene coating. The Axis Wire is currently available in the US in a 90-cm length, with 145- and 260-cm lengths expected to be available in August.

Talent Thoracic Stent Graft With CoilTrac Delivery System

COMPANY	Medtronic Inc.
PHONE	(800) 961-9055
WEB	www.medtronic.com

KEY FEATURES

- 22- to 46-mm diameters
- Controlled, precise CoilTrac delivery system designed for trackability in the thoracic arch
- Low-profile thoracic stent graft system (22- to 25-F outer diameter)

Medtronic Inc. (Santa Rosa, CA) announced the Talent Thoracic Stent Graft with CoilTrac Delivery System received FDA approval on June 5, 2008 for endovascular repair of aneurysms of the descending thoracic aorta. The VALOR (Vascular Talent Thoracic Stent Graft System for the Treatment of Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm) clinical trial has shown excellent clinical results for the VALOR Test Group at 1 year, with 96.9% freedom from aneurysm-related mortality, 99.5% successful vessel access and deployment, 99.5% freedom from aneurysm rupture, and 100% patency, the company says.

The Talent Thoracic System has a history of more than 10 years of clinical experience and more than 20,000 implants. The stent graft offers the widest range of diameters currently available in the US and "given the wide diameter treatment range, 25% of implanted subjects [in the VALOR Trial] could not have been treated with current commercially available devices," says VALOR Principal Investigator, Ronald Fairman, MD, Professor and Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

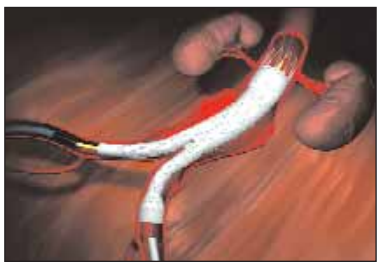
Zenith AAA Flex Legs

COMPANY	Cook Medical Aortic Intervention Strategic Business Unit
PHONE	(800) 457-4500
WEB	www.cookmedical.com

KEY FEATURES

- Greater flexibility and increased conformability
- Increased gaps between the stents
- Shorter external stents

Cook Medical (Bloomington, IN) annouced the US launch of its innovative Zenith Abdominal Aortic Aneursym (AAA) Iliac Legs with Flex Stent Gapping. This new product, which has received CE Marking and FDA approval, is designed to have increased flexibility and improved conformability, easing its path through tortuous patient anatomy, the company says. European availability began in July.



"... until now, no company has addressed the issue of dramatically improving the other components—the ipsilateral and contralateral legs that seal the device below the aortic bifurcation," explained Phil Nowell, global leader of Cook Medical's Aortic Intervention business unit.

The Zenith AAA Flex Leg external stents are shorter than those of its predecessor, with increased gaps between the stents. According to the company, it is this design that improves flexibility and conformability, reducing the potential of the leg to kink. The device, like the Zenith Flex main body, is constructed of polyester graft material supported by stainless steel Z-stent bodies. ■

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Direct queries to Matt Pesotski, Editor-in-Chief, at mpesotski@bmctoday.com or (484) 581-1800, ext. 25.
Address correspondence to Endovascular Today, *c/o Bryn Mawr Communications II LLC, 1008 Upper Gulph Road, Suite 200, Wayne, PA 19087.*