Steer-It Guidewire

COMPANY	Cordis Corporation
PHONE	(800) 327-7714
WEB	www.steer-it.info

KEY FEATURES

- Bidirectional deflecting tip
- Nitinol core covered with a proprietary nonstick coating sleeve
- 7-mm deflection tip

Cordis Corporation (a Johnson & Johnson company, Miami, FL) announces the availability of the Steer-It Deflecting Tip Guidewire for commercial use in the US, Canada, and Europe. The Steer-It is used in positioning catheters and other interventional devices, such as drug-eluting stents, in a patient's coronary artery. It can also be used in the peripheral arteries. Featuring a unique tip that can be manipulated to bend in two directions, the Steer-It Guidewire is specially designed to help physicians treat hard-to-reach blockages, including those in tortuous vessels, previously deployed stents, or side branches of an artery.

"The Steer-It Guidewire is an important advance in interventional device technology because its bidirectional deflecting tip gives physicians more control and ease-of-use than conventional guidewires," said Maurice Buchbinder, MD, director of interventional cardiology and codirector of the cardiac catheterization laboratory at Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla, California. "By being able to actively change both the direction and angle of the Steer-It Guidewire tip, physicians can maneuver effortlessly through difficult-to-navigate arteries and treat challenging lesions."

Supera Nitinol Stent

COMPANY	IDev Technologies, Inc.
PHONE	(281) 333-1998
WEB	www.idevmd.com

KEY FEATURES

- High conformity to the natural vessel
- 1:1 nominal sizing to the vessel
- Interwoven nitinol design
- Easy-to-use delivery system
- Wide variety of size configurations

IDev Technologies, Inc. (Houston, TX) announces that it has received FDA 510(k) approval for the Suresave interwoven, self-expanding nitinol stent, which the company will rename as the Supera stent for commercial use in the US. It is the first interwoven, nitinol self-expanding stent approved for hepatic biliary use in the US. Supera offers superior radial force and unsurpassed flexibility compared to traditional, laser-cut, nitinol-tube stents. As a result, Supera will deliver exceptional durability for patients because it is highly resistant to kinking, crimping, and fracturing. According to the company, Supera will be available in sizes ranging from 4 mm to 10 mm in diameter, and 40 mm to 120 mm in length. Various size configurations will be mounted on both 90-cm and 120-cm usable catheter length systems.

The company stated that IDev Technologies is planning clinical trials in the iliac and the superficial femoral arteries to demonstrate long-term patency and durability relative to the current gold-standard therapies. They also state that Supera will be introduced with a novel, easy-to-use delivery system that offers a special retrievable feature. This benefit will allow physicians to reposition the Supera stent prior to its final deployment, the company says.

TandemHeart Escort

COMPANY	CardiacAssist, Inc.
PHONE	(412) 963-7770 ext. 247
WEB	www.cardiacassist.com

KEY FEATURES

- Comprehensive diagnostics and alarm system
- Transonic flow probe for enhanced flow measurement
- Easy-to-load infusion assembly
- Step-by-step onscreen tutorials
- Space-saving design, weighs only 21 lbs
- Pressure transducer to monitor infusion pressure and alert for blockages in the infusion line

CardiacAssist, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA) has received FDA 510(k) clearance for the TandemHeart Escort Controller. The new, lightweight, space-saving Escort Controller is one of three primary components that comprise the TandemHeart PTVA system, which provides circulatory support through a cardiac catheterization procedure in as few as 30 minutes. It is FDA approved for extracorporeal circulatory support for up to 6 hours for procedures not requiring full cardiopulmonary bypass. The 21-lb Escort Controller replaces the original 93-lb TandemHeart Controller and can be mounted at bedside on an IV pole or tabletop. Intended primarily for AC power use, it has reserve battery power for 1 hour of operation. The Escort Controller design retains subsystems used in previous-generation controller devices such as the pump motor driver circuits, flow estimator, air bubble detector, IV pump, and infusion system, thus maintaining compatibility between the two generations of controllers and ensures a high degree of reliability, the company says. ■