GuardDog Occlusion System

COMPANY	Possis Medical, Inc.
PHONE	(800) 810-7677
WEB	www.possis.com

KEY FEATURES

- Fast inflation and deflation with radiopaque CO_2
- Allows three inflation-deflation cycles per balloon
- Occludes 3-mm to 6-mm peripheral vessels
- Compliant balloon system uses low pressure to occlude flow
- Shapeable tip for easier placement

Possis Medical, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN) announces the launch of its GuardDog Occlusion System, the industry's first .035-inch guidewire with a CO_2-filled occlusion balloon. According to the company, the GuardDog Occlusion System is based on a .035-inch guidewire, which is easily sealed to maintain inflation of the balloon and provides occlusion until the guidewire is trimmed and the balloon is deflated, allowing for rapid reperfusion. The GuardDog can be delivered to the treatment site through a .038-inch diagnostic catheter. The tip features a shapeable section for easier placement into tortuous vessels. Radiopaque markers at either end of the soft, compliant balloon aid in proper positioning. The inflation device is preloaded with enough CO_2 to perform three inflation-deflation cycles, the company says.

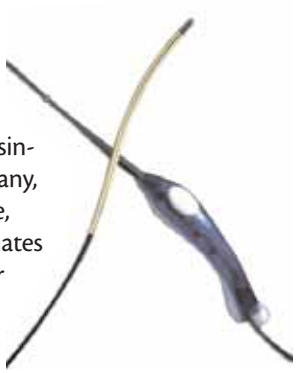
ClosureFast Radiofrequency Catheter

COMPANY	VNUS Medical Technologies, Inc.
PHONE	(888) 797-8346
WEB	www.closurefast.com

KEY FEATURES

- Ablates 7 cm of vein in a 20-second treatment
- Shortens procedure time while delivering optimal therapeutic power
- Average 45-cm length vein treatment is typically performed in 3 to 5 minutes
- Compatible with existing VNUS RFGPlus radiofrequency generators after software upgrade

VNUS Medical Technologies, Inc. (San Jose, CA) announces the January 2007 launch of the ClosureFast catheter, an endovenous radiofrequency catheter that uses a segmental ablation approach to treat a 7-cm length of vein during a single 20-second treatment. According to the company, the ClosureFast catheter shortens procedure time, offers rapid and mild patient recovery, and eliminates the variability of pullback speed to control power delivery. A 45-cm-long vein treatment is typically performed in 3 to 5 minutes, the company says. The ClosureFast catheter's shaft markings facilitate quick and accurate repositioning to the adjacent vein segment for precise catheter positioning using ultrasound visualization. Thorough tumescent infiltration and external compression ensure good contact between the catheter and the vein wall. Fully compatible with existing VNUS RFGPlus generators after a software upgrade, the ClosureFast catheter monitors treatment parameters in real time and delivers optimal therapeutic power through the system's controlled feedback mechanism, the company says.



Precise Nitinol Stent and Angioguard Emboli Capture Guidewire

COMPANY	Cordis Corporation
PHONE	(800) 327-7714
WEB	www.jnjgateway.com

KEY FEATURES

- Low stroke and TLR rates at 1 year in clinical trials
- Precise Stent is auto-tapering and is the highest radial strength carotid stent with unique micromesh, multisegmented design
- Angioguard Embolic Protection Device features best-in-class pore size and shortest basket length
- Only carotid system tested in a randomized trial (SAPPHIRE study)

Cordis Endovascular (Division of Cordis Corporation, Warren, NJ) announced it has received FDA approval to market the Precise Stent and Angioguard Emboli Capture Guidewire, which are approved to treat carotid artery disease in patients at high risk for adverse events from carotid endarterectomy. According to the company, it is the only carotid system backed by a large, randomized clinical trial, the landmark SAPPHIRE study, to support the potential benefits of carotid artery stenting in patients who are ineligible, or considered high risk, for carotid endarterectomy. The Cordis Carotid System has been studied in more than 4,000 patients across both the SAPPHIRE trial and the Carotid Artery Stent Education System Post-Marketing Study (CASES-PMS), and demonstrated low stroke rates in both, the company says.

The Precise Stent comes in 20-, 30-, and 40-mm lengths and 5-mm to 10-mm diameters. The Angioguard Filter comes in 4-mm to 8-mm baskets, and the system covers a wider range of vessel sizes than any other carotid system on the market.

Stephen R. Ramee, MD, of Ochsner Health System, said, "More and more practitioners prefer carotid stenting over endarterectomy based on the clinical evidence and safety profile. The Cordis Carotid System is easy to prepare and use and has good retrievability, which is important in order to protect the patient's brain from embolic material."

Zenith Flex AAA Endovascular Graft

COMPANY	Cook Incorporated
PHONE	(800) 457-4500
WEB	www.cookmedical.com

KEY FEATURES

- Uses Cook's proven Zenith Flex AAA Endovascular Graft design
- Preloaded onto a 22-F H&L-B One-Shot Introduction System
- Allows for more flexibility in the infrarenal segment of the device
- Treats patients with large aortic neck diameters ranging from 29 mm to 32 mm

Cook Incorporated (Indianapolis, IN) has announced that it has received FDA clearance of its 36-mm Zenith Flex AAA Endovascular Graft and 22-F H&L-B One-Shot Introduction System with Flexor Sheath and Captor Hemostatic Valve. The Flex provides physicians with an endovascular solution for the interventional treatment of abdominal aortic aneurysms in large aortic necks ranging from 29 mm to 32 mm in diameter. According to the company, the state-of-the-art aortic endograft is designed to provide an effective, minimally invasive treatment option for patients with large abdominal aortic neck diameters who previously may not have been candidates for endovascular aortic repair.

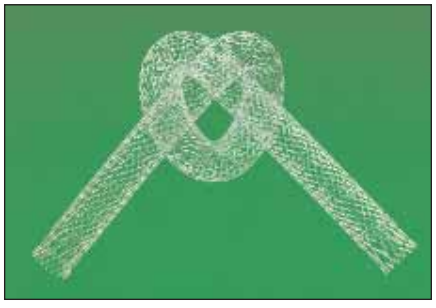
LifeStent FlexStar and FlexStar XL

COMPANY	Edwards Lifesciences
PHONE	(949) 250-2500 (US) and +41-21-823-4300 (Switzerland)
WEB	www.edwards.com

KEY FEATURES

- Highly conformable
- Triple-helix design
- Stent lengths up to 150 mm
- Multiple deployment methods

Edwards Lifesciences Corporation (Irvine, CA) announces the US launch of its LifeStent FlexStar and FlexStar XL stent delivery systems. Edwards has received FDA 510(k) clearance for the FlexStar systems to treat biliary obstructions, as well as an expanded European CE Mark including the treatment of peripheral vascular disease. The FlexStar systems offer clinicians multiple methods for stent deployment and are now available in the US in stent diameters from 6 mm to 10 mm and lengths to 150 mm. The FlexStar systems are designed to optimize the delivery of Edwards' LifeStent nitinol self-expanding stents, which are highly conformable and feature a triple-helix design, the company says.



Fetch Aspiration Catheter

COMPANY	Possis Medical, Inc.
PHONE	(800) 810-7677
WEB	www.possis.com

KEY FEATURES

- Smallest outer diameter of 4.2 F
- Braided proximal shaft design
- Hydrophilic-coated distal shaft design
- Proprietary convex tip design
- Radiopaque marker band 2 mm from distal tip

Possis Medical, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN) announces the introduction of its new Fetch Aspiration Catheter. According to the company, the rapid exchange Fetch Aspiration Catheter offers physicians another option for the aspiration of small, fresh blood clots and other embolic debris from arteries. The catheter features an advanced braided shaft design used in other AngioJet thrombectomy catheters marketed by Possis. This braided shaft transitions to a flexible, hydrophilic-coated distal shaft that enhances pushability and trackability. Additionally, its proprietary convex tip design combined with a small outer diameter minimizes vessel trauma and enhances deliverability. A radiopaque marker band 2 mm from the distal tip provides visibility and easy positioning. The Fetch catheter is compatible with all .014-inch guidewires and any 6-F guide catheters, the company says. ■