

**For Immediate Release
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Pioneer Surgical Technology has received conditional approval from the FDA to proceed with clinical trials of its NUBAC™ device. Pioneer plans to begin patient enrollment in the third quarter to assess the potential benefits of the NUBAC™ Disc Arthroplasty System.

The NUBAC™ Disc Arthroplasty device is made from PEEK-OPTIMA® which has established biocompatibility and great bi durability for spinal fusion implants. It incorporates a unique two-piece ball and socket, designed to achieve load sharing and stress distribution under various physiological loading conditions. By providing even stress distribution with its inner-articulating feature, the NUBAC implant is designed to minimize potential subsidence and extrusion risks as well as maintain disc height. The NUBAC procedure is intended to conserve most of the annular tissue and to be less invasive than Total Disc Replacement (TDR) and fusion, allowing further treatment options of TDR or fusion if revision is required.

“We are excited about the design strengths that the NUBAC device brings to non-fusion technology. We believe that the ball-and-socket design will create more natural intradiscal support by improving overall load sharing within the disc space. It increases patient options down the road by being a less invasive procedure and avoids bridge-burning,” reflects Dr. Matthew N. Songer, Chairman and CEO of Pioneer.

About Pioneer Surgical Technology

Pioneer Surgical Technology was founded in 1992 by Dr. Matthew N. Songer to address the difficulty and danger of using wire for spinal correction. The company’s first milestone was the development of the Songer Spinal Cable System® which provides superior flexibility and strength in spinal fixation procedures. A partnership was later formed with DePuy Spine, formerly AcroMed, to distribute this innovative system. Pioneer developed the Zimmer Cannulated Screw System using BioDur 108, a new nickel-free stainless steel alloy.

Pioneer has evolved into a true surgeon-driven company, which in 2005 launched the following spinal implant systems: Quantum® Spinal Rod, Pioneer® Anterior Cervical Plate and its PEEK-Plus Vertebral Replacement Devices. Also, NUBAC received CE approval in 2005.

The company is expanding its 70,000 square foot facility as it continues to grow its spinal and orthopaedic products. Pioneer currently employs over 200 internal and external employees and has been awarded 30 patents.

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