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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THEKEN DISC DEMONSTRATES THE eDISC AT THE SPINAL ARTHROPLASTY SOCIETY 6TH ANNUAL MEETING (SAS6)

Over 1,600 physicians, industry executives and analysts attended the Annual Meeting

AKRON, OH (May 15, 2006) Theken Disc demonstrated the microelectronics and the physiologic design of the eDisc™ at the sixth annual global symposium on Motion Preservation Technology of the Spine Arthroplasty Society (SAS) held May 9-13 in Montreal, Canada. The symposium featured the latest technological innovations and scientific advances from all areas of motion preservation. Approximately 1,600 physicians, industry executives, analysts and investors attended.

Theken Disc demonstrated the eDisc's wireless data collection capabilities and physiologic design throughout the annual meeting in booth 118.



Richard Navarro, VP of Research and Development for Theken Disc demonstrates the eDisc.

To demonstrate the superior physiologic design, the eDisc was compared to a first generation 'ball and socket' total disc replacement (TDR). The discs were shown side-by-side in a hands-on lumbar spine model demonstration. Participants manipulated each spine model to feel the elastic difference between a 1st generation TDR and the eDisc. First generation TDRs have no elasticity and therefore do not replicate the viscoelastic biomechanics of natural human discs. eDisc, with its elastic replication of human disc motion and microelectronics for monitoring forces in a patient's spine, defines the next generation in TDR for the lumbar spine.

In addition to demonstrating the physiological differences, as the eDisc was manipulated it collected and transmitted forces on the spine model to a lap top computer. Implanted in a patient this wireless force data will provide patients with biofeedback and surgeons with data for optimizing their patient's course of recovery. The demonstration generated excitement

throughout the meeting and educated attendees on the the advantages of Theken's second generation disc technology.

"This demonstration highlights the key benefits of the eDisc, the *elastic motion* and the *microelectronics*," states Richard Navarro, VP of Research and Development for Theken Disc. "It is always exciting to watch people's expression when they experience the dramatic difference in "feel" between devices. Not to mention their look of astonishment when realizing the eDisc contains a microcomputer, rechargeable battery and wireless communication." The eDisc is expected to begin clinical trials in 2007.

Company Profile

Theken Disc is a member of the Theken family of companies. The Theken family of companies (www.theken.com) Theken Spine LLC, Theken Disc LLC, Theken Orthopaedic, Inc. and Therics LLC specializes in pioneering spinal implant technologies that improve spinal surgical techniques benefiting patients as well as surgeons. Theken provides comprehensive product lines that offer surgeons peace of mind through steadfast product reliability and easy-to-use instrumentation. Products include cervical plates, pedicle screws, spacers, degenerative/deformity and trauma devices. Theken also leads the market in next-generation artificial disc replacement technology.

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Warning: The eDISC is not approved for implantation in the U.S.A.

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