



1800 Triplett Blvd.
Akron, OH 44306
Phone: 330.475.8600
Fax: 330.773.7697
www.theken.com

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rachael Smith
330.475.8601 / 330.807.2569

THEKEN'S NEW SPINAL IMPLANT IS TURNING SURGEONS' HEADS

Vu aPOD™ Intervertebral Body Fusion Implant Receives FDA Clearance

Akron, OH – (July 20, 2008) Theken Spine, a leader in spinal fixation systems, announces that Mukund Gundanna, MD College Station, TX performed the first surgery for the Vu aPOD on July 11, 2008. To date, the outcome of the surgery is positive.

The Vu aPOD is the first anterior lumbar intervertebral fusion (ALIF) implant with an optional internal SpinPlate to receive FDA clearance. Vu aPOD uses the patient's cortical bone in the anterior part of the vertebral body as a buttress when engaging the internal SpinPlate, enhancing implant stability.

Theken received FDA clearance to market Vu aPOD in the United States in early July.

"The surgery went very well and the Vu aPOD was simple to use," states Dr. Gundanna. "The SpinPlate is like nothing I have used before. It reduces any concerns about implant migration," continues Gundanna. "It truly provides better fixation for the patient."

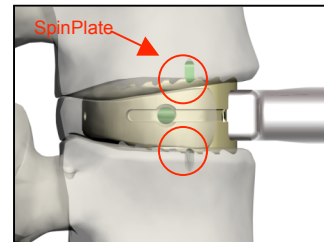
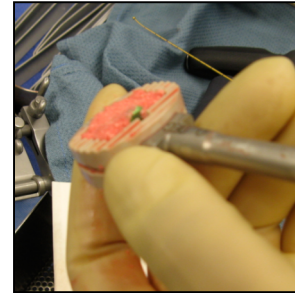
The addition of Vu aPOD enables Theken to offer a more complete product portfolio to spine surgeons.

About Theken, a family of companies

The Theken (Pronounced 'tay-ken') family of companies Theken Spine, LLC, Theken Disc, LLC, Theken Orthopaedic, Inc. and Therics, LLC (www.theken.com) 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 devices and trauma devices. Theken also leads the market in developing next generation artificial disc replacement technology.

Company Contact

Rachael Smith
Director of Communications
Theken Spine
Phone: 330-475-8601
Mobile: 330-807-2569
Email: rsmith@thekenspine.com



Vu aPOD with SpinPlate engaged

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