Press Release

SpineGuard appoints Kris Kumar as U.S. Marketing Director

PARIS and SAN FRANCISCO (May 27, 2014) – SpineGuard (FR0011464452 – ALSGD), an innovative medical device company focused on improving spine surgery safety with its family of bone-monitoring devices, announced today that Kris Kumar has joined SpineGuard Inc. as U.S. Marketing Director.

Mr. Kumar brings a 20-year successful career with Zimmer, Synthes, J&J Depuy and Kyphon (Medtronic), with increasing responsibilities: from product development engineering to product management, sales management and marketing leadership.

"With the appointment of Kris, we are strengthening our U.S. team and marketing capabilities to further drive the adoption of PediGuard in pedicle screw placement and expand our bone-monitoring platform toward new applications. Kris' hands-on experience in developing and marketing new technologies in spine and general orthopedics will help us leverage our unique product offering, our burgeoning clinical evidence, and our network of key opinion leaders & teaching institutions," said Pierre Jérôme, co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of SpineGuard.

"I am very happy to join SpineGuard because its technology is unique in that it is not just an incremental improvement over existing technologies, but rather a radically new stand-alone technology. The PediGuard devices improve implant placement accuracy, while significantly decreasing radiation exposure for the surgeon, hospital staff and patient. Also, with the plethora of clinical evidence already generated, SpineGuard is well-positioned for significant growth," said Kris Kumar.

About the PediGuard® Bone-Monitoring Platform

Co-invented by Maurice Bourlion, Ph.D., Ciaran Bolger, M.D., Ph.D., and Alain Vanquaethem, Biomedical Engineer, PediGuard is the world's first and only handheld device capable of alerting surgeons to potential pedicular or vertebral breaches. Real-time feedback is provided via audio and visual signals. Over 30,000 procedures have been performed with PediGuard on all continents. Several studies published in peer-reviewed medical and scientific journals have demonstrated that PediGuard detects 98% of pedicle breaches, presents an average screw placement accuracy of 97% (vs. 92% on average for navigation), provides 3-fold less pedicle perforations than with free-hand technique and a 3-fold reduction in neuro-monitoring alarms. It also limits radiation exposure by 25-30% and decreases by 15% the time for pedicle screw placement.

About SpineGuard®

Co-founded in 2009 by Pierre Jérôme and Stéphane Bette, former executives at Medtronic Sofamor-Danek and SpineVision, SpineGuard's primary objective is to establish its FDA-cleared and CE-marked PediGuard® device as the global standard of care for safer screw placement in spine surgery. SpineGuard's mission is to make spine surgery safer. The company has offices in San Francisco and Paris. For further information, visit www.spineguard.com.

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