

## SpineGuard and Neuro France Implants in co-development partnership for the first “smart screw” based on Dynamic Surgical Guidance

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**PARIS and SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11, 2015** – SpineGuard (FR0011464452 – ALSGD), an innovative company that designs, develops and markets disposable medical devices intended to make spine surgery safer, announced today its co-development partnership with Neuro France Implants (NFI) for the integration of its Dynamic Surgical Guidance (DSG) technology into NFI’s pedicle screw system.

SpineGuard’s DSG technology will be embedded into NFI’s pedicle screw system to provide unprecedented accuracy, enhance the surgical work flow, and match health economic trends.



*“We are very pleased to partner with NFI on the development of this game-changing technology in a global annual market of one million pedicle screw-based procedures. Our common ambition is to perform the first surgeries with our dynamically guided screws this year,”* said **Pierre Jérôme**, CEO and Co-founder of SpineGuard. *“Our R&D collaboration with Neuro France, initiated a few months ago, has already been fruitful with four labs, three generations of functional prototypes and very positive feedback from the surgeons involved in the pre-clinical evaluation.”*

**Patrice Moreau**, CEO and Co-founder of Neuro France Implants, said, *“We are delighted to bring our solid expertise in developing and manufacturing spinal implants into this very exciting partnership. Making our G2S pedicle screw system dynamically guided thanks to SpineGuard’s unique technology will offer enhanced safety and assurance to spine surgeons.”*

*“This is another demonstration of SpineGuard’s continued development and execution of instruments to make spine surgery safer for patients and provide confidence to the surgical team. The pedicle screw with Dynamic Surgical Guidance will truly change the way we think about spine and orthopaedic surgery,”* said **Randal Betz, M.D., Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon, Philadelphia, USA.**

*“The PediGuard has shown its accuracy in pedicle preparation. The partnership between SpineGuard and NFI is a great development for the spine surgeon community with the integration of two technologies into one device - a new screw with an original design combined with the Dynamic Surgical Guidance technology. This first dynamically guided screw will be the most innovative device of the year in Spine surgery, as it will further reduce complications and associated costs. We look forward to using it,”* said **Patrick Tropiano M.D., Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Marseille La Timone University Hospital – France.**

## About SpineGuard®

Co-founded in 2009 by Pierre Jérôme and Stéphane Bette, former executives at Medtronic Sofamor-Danek and SpineVision, SpineGuard's mission is to make spine surgery safer and its primary objective to establish its FDA-cleared and CE-marked PediGuard® device as the global standard of care for safer screw placement in spine surgery. 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 35,000 procedures have been performed with PediGuard worldwide. 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. 93% for surgical navigation), provides threefold fewer pedicle perforations than with the free-hand technique and a threefold reduction in neuromonitoring alarms. It also limits radiation exposure by 25-30% and decreases by 15% the time for pedicle screw placement. The company also focuses on developing and exploring other applications for its Dynamic Surgical Guidance technology platform. SpineGuard has offices in San Francisco and Paris. For further information, visit [www.spineguard.com](http://www.spineguard.com).

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