Industry News

Next-generation mobile-bearing knee system
The Zimmer NexGen LPS-Flex mobile-bearing knee implant (A) with Prolong highly crosslinked polyethylene is now available in the United States. The LPS-Flex mobile-bearing knee has an anteriorly positioned pivot near the entry point of the anterior cruciate ligament, which purports to replicate the anatomic center of knee rotation. According to the manufacturer, the LPS-Flex with Prolong polyethylene demonstrated an 83 percent wear reduction during in vitro wear simulator testing, compared to conventional polyethylene. For more information, visit www.mobile.zimmer.com

CD HORIZON pedicle screw cleared to treat AIS
According to Medtronic, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared use of the CD HORIZON® pedical screw system (B) for treating adolescent idiopathic scoliosis (AIS). The safety and effectiveness of this device has not been established for use as part of a growing rod construct. This device is only intended to be used when definitive fusion is being performed at all instrumented levels. For more information, visit www.medtronic.com

Suture anchor system receives FDA clearance
According to ArthroCare, it has received FDA clearance for its SpeedFix Suture Anchor system. A push-in anchor made of PEEK (polyetherketone) polymer, the system is designed to be used for the repair of certain tears of the labrum in a shoulder. For more information, visit www.arthrocare.com

Interspinous fusion system
X-spine’s new AXLE® Interspinous Fusion System is designed to provide spinal stability for lumbar fusion procedures, including the treatment of degenerative disk disease, spinal tumors, and trauma. According to the manufacturer, the system’s modular design allows for implant customization to conform to individual patient anatomy. The implant can be placed through a one-inch incision in the back, reportedly with minimal disruption of tissue, and works by rigidly attaching to the spinous process of the lower or middle spine. For more information, visit www.x-spine.com

Laminoplasty system for cervical spinal stenosis
Designed to treat posterior decompression of the cervical spine, the Mountaineer® Laminoplasty System (C) from DePuy Spine is used in the lower cervical and upper thoracic spine (C3 to T3) to hold the allograft or autograft material in place and prevent it from expulsion or impinging the spinal cord. Features include a “dove-tail” plate designed to provide a secure, flush fit attachment to the instruments; notches on the allograft that provide secure attachment points; and tabs to prevent the holder from migrating into the canal. The system also offers three different plate options: inline, inline side-by-side, and hinge. For more information, visit www.depuy.com

Hammertoe fixation system introduced
The PRO-TOE® VO Hammertoe Implant System from Wright Medical is indicated for the fixation of osteotomies and reconstruction of the lesser toes following correction procedures for hammertoe, claw toe, and mallet toe. The stainless steel implants have a blade-style end and a threaded end, and are available in two sizes with two blade angles. For more information, visit www.wmt.com

Pressure redistribution gel pads
Designed to reduce the risk of pressure ulcers, the new TUFFease® pressure redistribution gel product (D) from Innovation Medical Products (IMP) simulate an immersion floatation experience for the patient, reportedly lessening and redistributing pinpoint pressure. The gel pad’s slicker surface reduces friction with the patient’s skin, the wrinkle-free cover makes it easier to clean, and the pad’s thicker bottom makes the product more durable, according to the manufacturer. In addition, the new gel is a proprietary, plant oil-based formula—a renewable resource product that, according to IMP, can eventually be disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner. For more information, visit www.innovativemedical.com

Virtual preoperative surgical planning
Materialise from SurgiCase® Orthopaedics is a service that centers on the use of computed tomography (CT)/magnetic resonance (MR) images in virtual surgical planning, the construction of cutting and drill guides individualized to fit the patient, and physical patient models. After uploading CT/MR images and other case data to the application, and after the engineer has converted the images into virtual 3D models of the bone, the surgeon can examine the images from various angles. The surgeon and engineer work together to formulate the best possible surgical plan from among a variety of possibilities. For more information, visit www.materialise.com