

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Machine Solutions Inc. Announces the Launch of New Equipment for Crimping and Loading Living Tissue Prostheses

Flagstaff, AZ USA, January 14, 2004 - Machine Solutions Inc.:

Machine Solutions Inc. (MSI) is pleased to announce the launch of our first disposable segmental compression equipment designed for crimping living tissue products for the new, cutting edge minimally invasive procedures like percutaneous heart valve replacement or repair. Currently, most of these procedures can only be performed through invasive procedures by exposing the chest cavity which involves stopping the heart and results in a very long patient recovery period. These minimally invasive procedures are a natural extension of current minimally invasive stent placement procedures. Several leading clinical investigators have performed these minimally invasive procedures in Europe utilizing a labor intensive hand loading procedure.

Living tissue replacement procedures are unique due to the tissue fragility that needs to be crimped and loaded in the catheterization laboratory, just prior to the procedure, rather than at the device manufacturer. The HV100 crimping mechanism from MSI is designed to easily and precisely reduce the diameter of large stents that have a living tissue attached while operating partially submerged in a saline solution, to preserve the tissue integrity. The stent and tissue reduction is critical to the loading of the stent into a catheter delivery system and the even expansion of the stent and tissue once it is properly placed in the body.

- Even, repeatable radial compression
- Single person operation
- Small foot print for lab/bedside applications
- Resterilizable base unit
- Disposable segmental compression mechanism

Machine Solutions Inc. (MSI) is a leading manufacturer and pioneer in providing the medical device community with the premier solution for catheter processing applications. MSI has been instrumental in automating or semi-automating several manual processes within catheter manufacturing organizations. Please visit www.machinesolutions.org for additional corporate and MSI product information.



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