ZIMMER BIOMET

Zimmer Launches First High Flexion Unicompartmental Knee

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WARSAW, Ind., Sep 29, 2004 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Zimmer Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: ZMH; SWX: ZMH), a worldwide leader in the orthopaedics industry, announced today that it has launched the industry's first high flexion design unicompartmental knee for patients who require partial knee replacement and who are capable of attaining high degrees of flexion.

"The Zimmer(R) Unicompartmental Knee System brings together several elements with which Zimmer has experienced considerable success," according to Ray Elliott, Chairman, President and CEO. "The high flexion design is a patient lifestyle attribute that has proven tremendously popular in our total knee systems. Also, this product was designed specifically for less invasive surgeries and strengthens our leadership in Zimmer Minimally Invasive Solutions(TM) (MIS(TM)) Procedures and Technologies. Finally, the implant design builds on the tremendously successful Zimmer M/G(R) Unicompartmental Knee System, which was first introduced in 1987."

The Unicompartmental High Flex Knee completes the offering of high flexion designs across Zimmer's knee replacement portfolio. First conceived to address patient needs in Asia where kneeling and squatting are more prevalent for religious and lifestyle purposes, the design has found great acceptance worldwide. For patients with the ability and desire to do so, this device is designed to safely accommodate flexion up to 155 degrees.

A key design goal of the system was to be "MIS friendly." In 1999, Zimmer began its successful advance in the MIS area by introducing the Minimally Invasive Solutions Instrumentation for implantation of the M/G Unicompartmental Knee. The MIS instruments and technique, combined with an implant that had a history of long-term survivorship, provided another treatment option for surgeons in addressing patient requirements.

Since its initial release, the M/G Unicompartmental Knee has demonstrated excellent long-term survivorship in several long-term clinical studies. At the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons meeting in March 2004, Dr. Richard Berger of Chicago reported results of a unicompartmental study at

Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in which 95.7% patients still had well-functioning knee replacements after 10 to 14 years.

The company says that the Zimmer Unicompartmental High Flex Knee System has now been released worldwide.

About the Company

Founded in 1927 and headquartered in Warsaw, Indiana, Zimmer is the worldwide #1 pure-play orthopaedic leader in the design, development, manufacture and marketing of reconstructive and spinal implants, trauma and related orthopaedic surgical products. In October, 2003, the Company finalized its acquisition of Centerpulse AG, a Switzerland-based orthopaedics company and the leader in the European reconstructive market. The new Zimmer has operations in more than 24 countries around the world and sells products in more than 80 countries. As a result of the acquisition of Centerpulse, reported 2003 sales were $1.9 billion. Full-year 2003 pro forma worldwide sales of Zimmer and Centerpulse were approximately $2.6 billion. The new Zimmer is supported by the efforts of more than 6,500 employees.

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Zimmer Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about the orthopaedics industry, management's beliefs and assumptions made by management. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of forward-looking terms such as "may," "will," "expects," "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "estimates," "projects," "targets," "forecasts," and "seeks" or the negative of such terms or other variations on such terms or comparable terminology. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, our ability to successfully integrate Centerpulse AG and Implex Corp., the outcome of the pending informal SEC investigation of Centerpulse accounting, price and product competition, rapid technological development, demographic changes, dependence on new product development, the mix of our products and services, supply and prices of raw materials and products, customer demand for our products and services, control of costs and expenses, our ability to form and implement alliances, international growth, governmental laws and regulations affecting our U.S. and international businesses, including tax obligations and risks, product liability and intellectual property litigation losses, reimbursement levels from third-party payors, general industry and market conditions and growth rates and general domestic and international economic conditions including interest rate and currency exchange rate fluctuations. For a further list and description of such risks and uncertainties, see the disclosure materials filed by Zimmer with the

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Zimmer disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Readers of this document are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, since, while we believe the assumptions on which the forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, there can be no assurance that these forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate. This cautionary statement is applicable to all forward-looking statements contained in this document.

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