

## **Incisive Surgical Issued Notice of Allowance for Key Absorbable Skin Stapler Patent**

Bio-Medicine.Org

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 28 /PRNewswire/ -- Incisive Surgical, Inc. today announced that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued a Notice of Allowance for another key patent application, "Mechanical Method and Apparatus for Tissue Fastening." The allowed claims include subject matter covering the method of the INSORB Skin Closure technology and specific stapler features. The Company has now sold over 500,000 INSORB® Absorbable Skin Staplers since its launch in January 2005. The INSORB Absorbable Skin Stapler is a revolutionary new method of skin closure.

Patients now have a more comfortable, convenient and cosmetic choice for closure of their surgical incisions. This unique device has won several national awards, including the 2006 *Wall Street Journal* Technology Innovation of the Year Award for medical devices. The Company will be exhibiting at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Surgeons being held in Washington, D.C. from October 4 - 6.

"The issuance of the Notice of Allowance by the Patent Office is further recognition of the important technological advance represented by the INSORB Absorbable Skin Stapler to patients, clinicians and health care facilities," said John L. Shannon, Jr., president and chief executive officer. The INSORB Absorbable Skin Stapler offers the speed of metal skin staplers with the cosmetic results and comfort of absorbable sutures. The INSORB Stapler uses bioabsorbable staples that are placed underneath the skin and dissolve in the body within a matter of months. The staples, which are comprised of the same material as the leading bioabsorbable sutures, break down naturally, meaning there is no need for post-operative removal. Clinical experience has shown that patients overwhelmingly prefer the absorbable skin staples compared to metal skin staples. With the issuance of the new patent, Incisive Surgical will hold 5 US Patents and 1 Japanese P

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