Extensive Materials Database

ASM International and Granta Design have unveiled a materials database created specifically to support medical device design. At stake is the ability to radically reduce many aspects of R&D expenses and to accelerate the development of new devices.

The Materials for Medical Devices Database: Cardiovascular Module marks the first time that researchers and designers will have access to a comprehensive and authoritative source of mechanical, physical, biological response and drug compatibility properties for the materials and coatings used in cardiovascular device applications.

The Cardiovascular Module is the result of thousands of hours of data acquisition, peer-review, and verification by specialists. It includes a comprehensive presentation of interrelated information, all fully traceable to primary sources. This includes extensive expert reviews and thousands of citations to published literature, FDA device approvals information, manufacturers' datasheets, standards, and web sites.

"This database is specifically designed for the identification, screening, and selection of material grades, manufacturing processes, and suppliers," said Michael N. Helmus, Ph.D., chairman of the ASM Medical Devices Database Committee and Senior Vice President of biopharma at Advance Nanotech, Inc.

"The real benefits for device manufacturers come from rapid access to authoritative sources of engineering data, biological response knowledge, information about specific cardiovascular devices, and FDA approvals information in a single integrated and cross-linked source," said David Cebon, Ph.D., Managing Director for Granta Design. "Using the MMD database, all relevant information can be found in seconds. With conventional tools and sources, this process could take days or even weeks." *Information:* www.asminternational.org *[1]*.

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