

Orthocrat Signs With Smith and Nephew to Distribute SpatialCad Preoperative Planning Software for its Taylor Spatial Frame
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New digital software for Taylor Spatial Frame is being made available

(PRWEB) October 2, 2004 - Smith and Nephew a global provider and leader of joint reconstruction, trauma and clinical therapy products purchases a 100 licenses of SpatialCad software to enable it's surgeons to be equipped for the digital radiography age.

Up to now surgeons were required to perform their planning on actual x-rays by drawing lines and measuring angles, now when digital X-rays are becoming introduced we are required to accommodate the change and provide a solution for our surgeons says Anthony James Vice President of Trauma Development at Smith and Nephew. Designed by Orthocrat and Smith and Nephew SpatialCad enables surgeons to perform preoperative planning for Taylor Spatial Frame off digital X-ray images. The SpatialCad software allows surgeons to perform the planning easier, faster and more accurately than ever before. The Smith&Nephew Frame, is a unique external fixation system, is used to treat a variety of fractures and deformities.

At the heart of the Frame System is an algorithm created to perform the calculations needed to accurately manipulate the Taylor Spatial Frame, a 6 degrees-of-freedom external fixator. The Taylor frame fixator consists of two rings or partial rings connected by six telescopic struts at special universal joints. By adjusting only strut lengths, one ring can be repositioned with respect to the other. The multiple angles and translations of a given deformity are addressed by adjusting lengths of struts only. The Taylor Spatial Frame fixator is capable of correcting a six-axes deformity.

Anthony James Says: "Since Taylor Spatial Frame is computer driven devices making a computer software for planning seemed like a natural way to go, and now finally we can provide to our surgeons a simple and a user friendly and reproducible method to perform their planning on digital images".

About Orthocrat

Orthocrat was established in early 2003 by a team of experienced surgeons, with the target of developing practical computer assisted surgical techniques. TraumaCad is the first one of the line of products from the company allowing pre-surgical planning of Trauma, Arthroplasty and Osteotomy procedures. Orthocrat products are equally suited for small-medium size practice as well as for larger academic institutions.

About Smith Nephew

Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics is a leading provider of joint reconstruction, trauma and clinical therapy products. Based in Memphis, Tenn., the company strives to combine industry-leading technology with its history of clinically proven products to deliver simpler, less invasive and more cost-effective procedures to the orthopaedic community.

Smith & Nephew (NYSE: SNN, LSE: SN) (www.smith-nephew.com) is one of the world's leading medical devices companies, specializing in Orthopaedics, Endoscopy and Advanced Wound Management. Smith & Nephew ranks as the global leader in arthroscopy and advanced wound management and is the fastest growing full-line orthopaedics company in the world.

Smith & Nephew is dedicated to helping improve people's lives. The company prides itself in the strength of its relationships with its surgeon and healthcare professional customers, with whom its name is synonymous with the highest standards of performance, innovation and trust. The company has more than 7,000 employees and operates in 32 countries around the world, generating sales of nearly \$2 billion.