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LENGTH: 530 words**HEADLINE:** 26 Technologies Receive 2009 Spine Technology Awards**DATELINE:** WAYNE, Pa., Nov. 12**BODY:**

WAYNE, Pa., Nov. 12 /PRNewswire/ -- Twenty-six new technologies for back care were selected as "Best New Technology for 2009" by a panel of independent surgeon judges in San Francisco. Sponsored by Orthopedics This Week, the largest circulation weekly publication in the industry, the 2009 Spine Technology Awards received submissions from 83 outstanding technologies representing more than 300 individual engineers, inventors and surgeons.

The technologies were judged according to their likelihood to advance the care of back patients using cost-effective innovation. The 30 judges were selected for their clinical experience and independence -- none were affiliated with the winning technologies.

Treating back pain is one of the most complex medical problems. New technologies have historically played a significant role in advancing the cause of patient care.

Speaking at the awards gala, Orthopedics This Week Publisher Robin Young said, "The medical device industry relies on the inspiration and perspiration of engineers and surgeon-inventors to improve outcomes and control costs. Most engineers and inventors are little known, so we are proud to provide these awards and a venue to recognize their great talents and contributions."

Winning spine technologies for 2009, by category, were:

Biomaterials

Covidien BioSurgery, DuraSeal Spine Sealant

Invibio Ltd., PEEK-OPTIMA Polymers

WW Technology, Bonewelding for Spine

Cervical Care

Aspen Medical, Symmetrically Adjustable Cervical Collar

Pioneer Surgical, nanOSS Cervical

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