

**For Immediate Release
August 31, 2006**

Pioneer Victorious in Federal Appeals Court, Stryker Claim Dismissed

Marquette, MI—August 31, 2006—The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit affirmed in favor of Pioneer Surgical Technology, holding that Pioneer's Quantum® Pedicle Screw does not infringe Stryker Corporation's U.S. patent No. 6,565,565.

In 2005 Stryker Corporation accused Pioneer Surgical Technology of infringing Stryker's '565 patent, related to their 90D pedicle screw product. Pioneer filed a lawsuit to resolve the matter. Stryker requested a judgment against Pioneer, but instead the Court entered a judgment against Stryker.

Stryker appealed the District Court ruling, but the Court of Appeals affirmed the decision against Stryker on August 11, 2006.

About Pioneer Technology

Pioneer Surgical Technology, headquartered in Marquette, Michigan, is a leading innovator in the design and manufacture of spinal and orthopaedic implants. Founded in 1992, Pioneer has positioned itself as a true surgeon-driven spinal device company that promotes responsiveness through customer intimacy, surgeon-to-surgeon relationships, and a commitment to long-term innovation. In 2005 Pioneer launched the following spinal implant systems, in addition to receiving the CE mark for the NUBAC Intradiscal System™: Quantum® Spinal Rod , Pioneer® Anterior Cervical Plate and its PEEK-Plus Vertebral Replacement Devices.

The company is expanding its 70,000 square foot facility in Marquette as it continues to grow its spinal and orthopaedic products. Pioneer currently employs over 200 employees worldwide and has been awarded 30 patents.