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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pioneer[®] Surgical Technology Announces the Availability of its CLARITY[™] Posterior Retractor System

Designed to increase surgeon control in minimally invasive surgery

Marquette, MI – October 19, 2007 – Pioneer Surgical Technology today announces the U.S. market availability of its CLARITY[™] Posterior Retractor System. This surgeon-inspired system was developed to help meet the challenge of reducing operating room time and improving patient outcomes.

The CLARITY[™] Posterior Retractor System allows for better visualization during fluoroscopy, an imaging technique commonly used by physicians to obtain real-time images of the internal structures of a patient, by reducing the opacity of the retractor device image. The system is also light weight yet strong enough to provide adequate muscle retraction for optimal visualization of the surgical site.

Innovation in the CLARITY[™] Retractor System begins with use of a strong and lightweight carbon-fiber reinforced PEEK (PolyEtherEtherKetone) frame. PEEK allows the retractor to be radiolucent which helps maximize the surgeon's visualization for precise implant placement. The carbon-fiber reinforcement helps maintain retractor stability.

"The CLARITY[™] Posterior Retractor System allows intraoperative adjustments and visualization during fluoroscopy to ensure accurate placements of instruments and implants, helping me complete my cases more quickly and



reducing the time my patients spend in the operating room,” said Richard Nussbaum, M.D. of the Los Angeles Orthopedic Institute.

CLARITY™ is also a more cost effective solution to similar products on the market. The ability to effectively use the product during fluoroscopy, radiolucent materials, easily adjustable blades and reusable lighting system provide a cost effective alternative to other products.

“Working directly with Pioneer’s engineers and product managers provides a surgeon the rare ability to convey thoughts and ideas about real issues. Modifications are made and the end result is a better product that is user friendly, cost effective and provides better outcomes for the patient,” said Dr. Nussbaum. “The Clarity retractor system results in decreased OR time and greater ease of performing a MIS procedure.”

About Pioneer Surgical Technology

Pioneer Surgical Technology, headquartered in Marquette, Michigan, is a leading innovator in the design and manufacture of spinal and orthopedic implants. Founded in 1992, Pioneer is committed to innovation and has been awarded 30 patents. It is a true surgeon-driven spinal device company that promotes responsiveness through customer intimacy, surgeon-to-surgeon relationships, and a commitment to innovation. In 2005, Pioneer launched several spinal implant systems: Quantum® Spinal Rod, Pioneer® Anterior Cervical Plate, and PEEK-Plus Vertebral Body Replacement Devices. Additionally, Pioneer received the European CE mark for its NUBAC™ Disc Arthroplasty System.

The company recently expanded its facility to more than 110,000 square feet to support its continued growth in spinal and orthopaedic products. Pioneer employs more than 230 employees worldwide.

For more information contact Steve Severson, Pioneer Surgical Technology, at 906-226-4449 or visit www.pioneersurgical.com