Olympus Receives Contract with Premier Healthcare Alliance for THUNDERBEAT Advanced Energy Platform

Olympus, a precision technology leader in designing and delivering innovative Medical and Surgical solutions, among other core businesses, announced today that its THUNDERBEAT Advanced Energy Platform has been added to the Surgical Energy agreement with Premier. This award is a result of a "Breakthrough Technology" process where THUNDERBEAT demonstrated significant differentiation to be added to the agreement mid-stream. The agreement offers specially negotiated pricing to Premier's alliance of more than 2,800 hospitals and 95,000 providers nationwide.

THUNDERBEAT is the world's only platform that combines advanced bipolar and ultrasonic energies into a single multi-functional hand instrument allowing surgeons to simultaneously seal and cut vessels up to and including 7 mm in size with minimal thermal spread. Additionally, it boasts the fastest cutting speed, delivers reliable vessel sealing, and provides the highest grasping forces at the tip when compared to the leading energy instruments currently on the market.

"We are very excited to be selected by Premier as a preferred vendor for our THUNDERBEAT Advanced Energy Platform," said Luke Calcraft, President of the Medical Systems Group at Olympus Corporation of the Americas. "THUNDERBEAT eliminates the need for surgeons to choose between the benefits of bipolar or ultrasonic energy by combining both energies into a single, universal system. This helps hospitals meet the demands of today's healthcare environment by realizing cost savings while providing quality care."

THUNDERBEAT, when combined with the versatility of the ESG-400 electrosurgical generator, is the only platform that delivers every common form of energy used in surgery today (monopolar, bipolar, ultrasonic and advanced bipolar) as well as the revolutionary combination of advanced bipolar and ultrasonic energies.

THUNDERBEAT was recognized by Premier as a Breakthrough Innovation Technology and was one of 14 medical innovations on display in front of thousands of healthcare providers and experts at the Premier healthcare alliance's 2013 Breakthroughs Conference and Exhibition [1]. In addition, the technology was showcased during the conference's fifth annual Innovation Celebration that took place on June 11 in San Antonio. The event recognizes advances in healthcare while highlighting industry suppliers committed to innovation and improving patient outcomes.

For more information, visit www.olympusamerica.com [2].

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