



## Press Release

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### **SCHWIND and ZIEMER to form Marketing Alliance** **Leading-edge technologies SCHWIND AMARIS™ and FEMTO LDV™** **from a single source**

Kleinostheim (Germany) und Port (Switzerland), September 13, 2008

SCHWIND eye-tech-solutions, Kleinostheim, Germany, and ZIEMER OPHTHALMIC SYSTEMS, Port, Switzerland, have declared their intention to form a close cooperation. This was announced by the two companies at the ESCRS convention (European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons) in Berlin, Germany. According to a joint statement, Ziemer's FEMTO LDV™ Femtosecond Surgical Laser will complement Schwind's product offering. It is the goal of this marketing alliance to offer an integrated system solution for high-quality all-laser LASIK from a single source. Refractive surgeons will benefit from the combination of two laser systems that represent the leading edge technology in their relative fields.

"Ziemer's femtosecond laser is an ideal complement to our product range and offers attractive added value for our existing and new customers. With the combination of the two state-of-the-art lasers SCHWIND AMARIS and FEMTO LDV a new level of quality in LASIK surgery has been achieved" says Rolf Schwind, CEO of Schwind. And Ziemer Group President Frank Ziemer points out: "With Schwind we are forming an alliance with a strong and reliable partner to address additional market opportunities." The two company leaders emphasize "we believe in strong and successful cooperation. Both Schwind and Ziemer will remain to be open for collaboration with other manufacturers and providers of high performance surgical laser systems."

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The two alliance partners will address international markets with their existing distribution networks. Ziemer and Schwind distribution partners will jointly offer package solutions to their customers. The Schwind – Ziemer marketing alliance is non-exclusive. Both companies will continue to market and sell their products also individually.

The FEMTO LDV operates at a pulse rate in the Megahertz range and is the fastest femtosecond surgical laser in the market. This results in extremely short laser pulses and ensures high precision tissue dissection without adverse thermal side effects. The FEMTO LDV is compact and mobile. With the SCHWIND AMARIS, it forms an integrated surgical workstation that permits an optimized workflow and short procedure times.

The SCHWIND AMARIS excimer laser achieves safe and precise correction of visual errors at an unsurpassed speed. Its excellent treatment quality has been documented in numerous clinical studies. The technological leadership of the TotalTech Laser is based on a true 500 Hz pulse rate, two fluence levels for optimal ablation control, and on its eye tracking system operating at 1050 Hz, the fastest in the market, and compensating all eye movements in five dimensions.

### **SCHWIND eye-tech-solutions**

SCHWIND eye-tech-solutions GmbH & Co.KG, domiciled in Kleinostheim (near Aschaffenburg, Germany), develops, manufactures and markets a comprehensive portfolio of products for refractive corneal surgery. Schwind's product portfolio includes diagnostic systems, software solutions, advanced systems for flap creation, and state-of-the-art excimer laser systems, including the technologically leading TotalTech Laser SCHWIND AMARIS™. The family enterprise, founded in 1958, has 80 employees and is active in more than 60 countries worldwide, with its own sales organization in Germany and with international distributors. Schwind's customers are refractive surgeons in private practice, eye clinics, and university hospitals.

### **Ziemer Ophthalmic Systems**

Ziemer Ophthalmic Systems, a Ziemer Group company, is domiciled in Port (Switzerland). Ziemer develops, manufactures, and markets surgical and diagnostic devices for the ophthalmic and optometric market. Main activities include corneal and refractive surgery, and diagnostic tools for refractive and Glaucoma specialists. Founded in 1998, Ziemer Group currently has 100 employees and actively markets its products world-wide. Besides its Switzerland-based headquarters, Ziemer has a marketing subsidiary in the USA. The Ziemer product portfolio includes the FEMTO LDV™ Femtosecond Surgical Laser, the AMADEUS II® Comprehensive Microkeratome System, the GALILEI™ Dual Scheimpflug Camera, and the PASCAL® Dynamic Contour Tonometer.

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Frank Ziemer



Rolf Schwind



ZIEMER's FEMTO LDV™ (at left) and the SCHWIND AMARIS™ TotalTech Excimer Laser™ (at right)