



Organ Recovery_{systems}

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ORGAN RECOVERY SYSTEMS OPENS NEW EUROPEAN HEADQUARTERS

*LifePort™ Kidney Transporter Receives CE Mark Certification for Marketing to the European Union;
Device Offers Significant Improvement over Static Storage of Transplantable Kidneys*

Chicago, Ill. March 10, 2004—Organ Recovery Systems, a developer of technologies and services to improve the quality and quantity of organs, cells, and tissues for transplantation, today announced that it received CE Mark certification and will market its LifePort™ Kidney Transporter to the European community from its newly established headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. The company will also coordinate organ-related research with European hospitals from its new Brussels office.

“Receiving CE Mark for the LifePort Kidney Transporter is a significant milestone for Organ Recovery Systems and for addressing the global shortage of transplantable organs. This, in conjunction with our new presence in the European community, provides the region with an effective tool for increasing the quality and number of healthy organs for transplantation,” said Organ Recovery Systems CEO David Kravitz. “With devices successfully deployed across the United States, we look forward to expanding the use of LifePort to Europe and other regions of the world.”

As in other parts of the world, Europe faces a supply and demand imbalance in organs for transplant. Last year, in the Benelux region alone, over 800 people were on a waiting list for renal transplantation, of which only 443 received a new kidney.¹ The LifePort Kidney Transporter provides a new high-tech alternative to the conventional static method of organ storage and transportation—a cooler filled with ice. Perfusion is the gentle pumping of an organ with a physiologic solution as a pre-treatment for transplantation. The revolutionary device received clearance from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) in August 2003 to be marketed in the United States.

“We have been using an Organ Recovery Systems perfusion protocol on a trial basis for the past year and initial results are impressive. Although surgical techniques have greatly improved in recent years, the perfusion of transplantable organs has been largely unchanged for the last 30 years,” said Dr. J.P.

¹ Eurotransplant: Umbrella organization managing transplantations for Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and Slovenia

Squifflet, Cliniques Universitaires St. Luc, Brussels and Chair of Belgium Transplantation Society Kidney-Pancreas Committee. “The LifePort Kidney Transporter offers us a new tool to make more and better organs available for transplant. This new technology takes a big step forward towards alleviation of the supply/demand imbalance in transplantation.”

“Transplantation is often the last resource of patients for having a normal life. Faced with a lack of donors, several countries in Europe, such as Belgium, endorsed the principle of ‘presumed consent for donation.’ As a result, with 23.9 organ donors per million inhabitants, Belgium ranks among the world's top five countries for organ donation. Unfortunately, given the continuously increasing demand for organs, we have a real organ shortage all over Europe.” says Prof. Dr. Y. Vanrenterghem (President of Eurotransplant; Universitair Ziekenhuis Gasthuisberg, Leuven).

The LifePort Kidney Transporter gently perfuses, or pumps, the kidney with a cold liquid solution to improve its condition before transplantation. Research shows that machine perfusion can safely prolong the average cold storage time for kidneys from the current 18 hours to 35 hours or more. With the extra time afforded by this technology, kidney transplants may soon become more elective-style as opposed to emergency-style procedures, resulting in improved outcomes and decreased hospital costs. The device also provides critical data to monitor and evaluate kidneys during transport. As a result, physicians and organ procurement professionals can better ensure the proper match between donor and recipient. Most importantly, several recent scientific papers suggest that machine perfusion may help enable the successful recovery for transplant of so called expanded criteria kidneys which are otherwise generally not used.

About Organ Recovery Systems

Organ Recovery Systems is a privately held company developing technologies and services to improve the quality and quantity of organs, tissues, and cells for transplantation. The company's flagship medical device, the FDA-cleared LifePort™ Kidney Transporter, is a mobile perfusion device that establishes a continuum of organ care spanning the critical time between recovery and transplantation. LifePort devices for the heart, liver and pancreas are in development, and the company is creating methods to improve the preservation and assessment of donated pancreas for improved yield and quality of Islet cells for transplant. The LifePort was named one of the top 100 breakthrough technologies by *Popular Science* in its 2003 Best of What's New Awards.

Organ Recovery Systems is organized into three operating groups: the Perfusion Services Group helps transplant centers and organ procurement organizations (OPOs) by employing proprietary perfusion techniques for evaluation and therapy of traditional, expanded criteria, and nonheartbeating donor kidneys prior to transplant; the Medical Devices Group develops perfusion-based devices to improve the preservation, assessment, and treatment of organs for transplantation; and the Charleston Research Center develops new technologies for cell and tissue preservation and evaluation while conducting basic and applied research to support the company's platform of organ therapy products. For more about Organ Recovery Systems visit <http://www.organ-recovery.com>.