



Orthofix International Introduces FUSION(R) Lateral OA Brace With New Low-Profile Hinge

- **New knee brace designed to improve comfort and reduce arthritis pain**

BOSTON, Dec 04, 2009 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- OrthofixInternational (NASDAQ: OFIX) (the Company) announced today that its sports medicine division, BREG, has expanded its successful line of FUSION^(R) functional knee braces by introducing the FUSION^(R) Lateral OA Brace, which features an ultra-thin low-profile hinge designed for individuals suffering from lateral compartment osteoarthritis (OA).

The FUSION^(R) Lateral OA Brace was developed to off-load knee stress for individuals suffering with osteoarthritis, and the low-profile hinge is designed to reduce interference during the wearer's movement specifically on the inside, or medial, part of the knee. As the newest member of the BREG family of FUSION^(R) functional knee braces, the new Lateral OA Brace is designed to provide support for the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) and posterior cruciate ligament (PCL), as well as protection for collateral ligaments, without hindering the wearer's activity.

The FUSION^(R) Lateral OA Brace features BREG's innovative thumbwheel dial that allows precision off-loading adjustments without any tools. The brace's frame also incorporates BREG's proprietary ProForm(TM) technology, which uses Zytel(R), a strong yet flexible polymer. This streamlined, lightweight frame was designed to conform intimately to the leg, reduce migration, promote natural motion and provide superior protection.

"Since the successful launch of FUSION^(R) OA in 2006, the need for OA bracing has grown steadily," said Alan Milinazzo, President and CEO of Orthofix. "We are proud of our ability to develop and launch innovative new products in response to the evolving needs of our physician customers and their patients."

The U.S. market for OA knee braces is estimated to be approximately \$82 million in 2010, with a compound annual growth rate of approximately 7%.

The full line of FUSION^(R) braces, including FUSION^(R), FUSION^(R) XT (for contact sports), FUSION^(R) Women's, FUSION^(R) OA and FUSION^(R) Lateral OA, are available in custom and off-the-shelf versions. For more information about FUSION^(R) visit www.orthofix.com or www.breg.com.

About Orthofix

Orthofix International, N.V. is a global medical device company offering a broad line of minimally invasive surgical, and non-surgical, products for the spine, orthopedic, and sports medicine market sectors that address the lifelong bone-and-joint health needs of patients of all ages-helping them achieve a more active and mobile lifestyle. Orthofix's products are widely distributed around the world to orthopedic surgeons and patients via Orthofix's sales representatives and its subsidiaries, including BREG, Inc. and via partnerships with other leading orthopedic product companies. In addition, Orthofix is collaborating in R&D partnerships with leading medical institutions such as the Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation, the Orthopedic Research and Education Foundation, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and the National Osteoporosis Institute. For more information about Orthofix, please visit www.orthofix.com.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This communication contains certain forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements, which may include, but are not limited to, statements concerning the projections, financial condition, results of operations and businesses of Orthofix and its subsidiaries and are based on management's current expectations and estimates and involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements.

Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences may include, but are not limited to, risks relating to the expected sales of its products, including products not yet launched, unanticipated expenditures, changing relationships with customers, suppliers and strategic partners, risks relating to the protection of intellectual property, changes to the reimbursement policies of third parties, changes to and interpretation of governmental regulation of medical devices, the impact of competitive

products, changes to the competitive environment, the acceptance of new products in the market, conditions of the orthopedic industry and the economy, corporate development and market development activities, including acquisitions or divestitures, unexpected costs or operating unit performance related to recent acquisitions and other factors described in our annual report on Form 10-K and other periodic reports filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SOURCE: Orthofix International

OrthofixInternational
Dan Yarbrough, 617-912-2903
Vice President of Investor Relations
danyarbrough@orthofix.com

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