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TranS1 Inc. Announces Launch of Minimally Invasive Lateral Access Fusion System

WILMINGTON, N.C., Nov. 16, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- TranS1 Inc. (Nasdaq:TSON), a pioneer in minimally invasive approaches to lumbar spine surgery, today announced the launch of its new lateral access fusion system for interbody fusions.

TranS1's minimally invasive lateral system features an innovative, two-stage retraction method that focuses on nerve visualization and then controlled retraction. The TranS1 lateral system is designed for direct visualization of the psoas muscles and adjacent nerves prior to muscle dissection.

James Manzanaras, M.D. of Orlando, FL, a surgeon participating in the limited market release, said, "The key to the TranS1 lateral is that it respects long-held principles for splitting and expanding muscle layers to reduce risk of nerve and muscle trauma. The direct and radiographic visualization of this system allows the surgeon to target specific levels of the spine while potentially avoiding dangerous areas of the psoas muscle."

The system has been in limited market release for the past 6 months at selected spine centers throughout the US. The retractor is complemented by a full range of PEEK lateral interbody implants and a variety of ergonomic instruments. Radiopaque markers are strategically located within the implants to allow proper placement.

"The introduction of our lateral system represents an excellent strategic fit with AxiaLIF, as the majority of our current customers utilize a minimally invasive lateral approach for specific pathologies needing interbody spine fusion," stated Ken Reali, TranS1's President and CEO. "This intuitive system demonstrates TranS1's continued commitment to developing less traumatic approaches to lumbar spinal fusion."

About TranS1 Inc.

TranS1 is a medical device company focused on designing, developing and marketing products that implement its proprietary approach to treat degenerative conditions of the spine affecting the lower lumbar region. TranS1 currently markets the AxiaLIF family of products for single and two level lumbar fusion and the Vectre and Avatar posterior fixation systems for lumbar fixation supplemental to AxiaLIF fusion. TranS1 was founded in May 2000 and is headquartered in Wilmington, North Carolina. For more information, visit www.trans1.com.

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