



Intuitive Surgical Names Rick Epstein as Senior Vice President of Marketing

January 31, 2007

SUNNYVALE, Calif., Jan 30, 2007 (PrimeNewswire via COMTEX News Network) -- Intuitive Surgical, Inc. (Nasdaq:ISRG), the industry leader in surgical robotics, today announced the addition of Rick Epstein to its management team as Senior Vice President of Marketing.

Mr. Epstein joins Intuitive Surgical from Cardinal Health, Inc. Rick spent 7 years at Cardinal Health, most recently as Vice President and General Manager for V. Mueller. He also served as Vice President, Research and Development and New Ventures and Vice President of Corporate R&D, responsible for commercializing new products and creating new business platforms for Cardinal's \$6B medical products division. Prior to joining Cardinal Health, Mr. Epstein spent three years at UroMed Corporation as Managing Director, responsible for creating and building UroMed's Male Healthcare Business. Mr. Epstein received his MBA from the University of Chicago, a Master's in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford and a Bachelor's Degree in General Engineering from the University of Illinois.

Commenting on the announcement, Lonnie Smith, Chairman and CEO of Intuitive Surgical, said, "Rick is a insightful and seasoned executive and an excellent fit with our values and culture. We are delighted to have him as a member of executive team."

About Intuitive's Products:

The da Vinci(r) Surgical System consists of a surgeon's viewing and control console having an integrated, high-performance InSite(r) 3-D vision system, a patient-side cart consisting of three or four robotic arms that position and precisely maneuver endoscopic instruments and an endoscope, and a variety of articulating EndoWrist(r) Instruments. By integrating computer-enhanced technology with surgeons' technical skills, Intuitive believes that its system enables surgeons to perform better surgery in a manner never before experienced. The da Vinci(r) Surgical System seamlessly and directly translates the surgeon's natural hand, wrist and finger movements on instrument controls at the surgeon's console outside the patient's body into corresponding micro-movements of the instrument tips positioned inside the patient through small puncture incisions, or ports.

The Aesop(r) Endoscope Positioner is a voice-activated robotic arm that automates the critical task of endoscope positioning, providing the surgeon with direct control over a smooth, precise and stable view of the internal surgical field.

The Hermes(r) Control Center is a centralized system designed to voice control a series of networked "smart" medical devices.

Intuitive(r), da Vinci(r), InSite(r), EndoWrist(r), Hermes(r), and Aesop(r) are registered trademarks of Intuitive Surgical, Inc.

This news release was distributed by PrimeNewswire, www.primenewswire.com

SOURCE: Intuitive Surgical

Intuitive Surgical, Inc.
Ben Gong
408-523-2175
Sarah Norton
408-523-2161