

**For Immediate Release**

## **MacPherson Medical's Novel Thermoplastic Surgical Tray Is New Approach to Instrument Set-Up**

*Solvay's Radel<sup>®</sup> PPSU Provides Strength, Formability, and Autoclavability in Easy-to-Use, Time-Saving Tray Solution*

**ALPHARETTA, Ga., October 19, 2011** – MacPherson Medical Inc., an emerging company based in Acton, Mass., has launched a novel multi-purpose surgical instrument tray that is designed to eliminate unnecessary prep time in the operating room. Made of Radel<sup>®</sup> polyphenylsulfone (PPSU) resin from Solvay Advanced Polymers, LLC, a Solvay Specialty Polymers company, the Stat-Mat<sup>®</sup> Minor surgical tray reduces instrument set-up time from as much as 10 minutes to only 10 seconds, plus it protects instruments from damage and ensures fast and accurate instrument count.

Radel PPSU was selected over metal for its durability, light weight, easy formability, and exceptional sterilizability, according to Brad MacPherson, CEO of MacPherson Medical. “Stat-Mat<sup>®</sup> is a unique solution for operating room personnel, delivering improved OR productivity and significant economic benefits,” said MacPherson. “Radel PPSU played a major role by delivering high strength, sterilizability, and lower manufacturing costs compared to metal.” (View this video:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkuAHOOhb48&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkuAHOOhb48&feature=player_embedded))

MacPherson Medical recently received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

510(k) clearance for Stat-Mat<sup>®</sup> Minor which is targeted for general surgery procedures. Radel PPSU is a key element in the functional, user-friendly design. The material is easily formed into complex shapes and offers significant manufacturing efficiencies versus metal. The surgical tray is designed with an instrument roll and special pockets and holders so instruments stay in place and avoid damage. This eliminates jumbled piles of instruments and ensures fast and accurate instrument counts. Stat-Mat<sup>®</sup> organizes a complete general minor kit, customizable for multiple procedures.

Lightweight Radel PPSU enables the surgical tray to stay under 25 pounds (11 kg), averaging about 14 pounds (6 kg) with full instrumentation. The material also offers excellent chemical resistance and withstands repeated disinfection and autoclaving – over 1,000 cycles – while maintaining its toughness and impact resistance.

Both the opaque base and transparent cover are thermoformed by Symmetry Medical in Manchester, N.H. utilizing their advanced processes. MacPherson Medical is teaming with specialty resellers in North America to offer the surgical tray to hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers. The company is also considering the use of Radel PPSU for other products in the Stat-Mat<sup>®</sup> line.

Solvay Advanced Polymers is a global leader in the development of sulfone polymer technology, launching Udel<sup>®</sup> polysulfone nearly 45 years ago. In addition, Solvay's experience as a key materials supplier in the healthcare field spans more than 20 years. The company is a leading manufacturer of high-performance plastics, offering a broad range of materials for healthcare instruments and medical devices. More recently, Solvay has successfully introduced its line of Solviva<sup>®</sup> Biomaterials and offers them for use in a range of implantable devices.

### **About MacPherson Medical Inc.**

MacPherson Medical Inc. designs and develops unique multi-purpose medical trays that deliver surgical instruments and other related products in the operating room. The initial patented solution, Stat-Mat, was conceived by an OR nurse to deliver a complete and immediate set-up to the OR to accommodate multiple procedures. The company is headquartered in Acton, Mass. and has manufacturing in the U.S. and distribution partners throughout the U.S. More information is available at (978) 800-4640 or visit [www.macphersonmedical.com](http://www.macphersonmedical.com).

### **About Symmetry Medical Inc.**

Symmetry Medical Inc. is a leading independent provider of implants and related instruments and cases to the orthopaedic device industry. The company also designs, develops and produces these products for companies in other segments of the medical device market, including arthroscopy, dental, laparoscopy, osteobiologic, spinal and endoscopy sectors and provides limited specialized products and services to non-healthcare markets such as the aerospace market. For more information, visit [www.symmetrymedical.com](http://www.symmetrymedical.com).

### **About Solvay Specialty Polymers**

Solvay Specialty Polymers manufactures more products with more performance than any other polymer company in the world. The company supplies over 1500 products across 33 brands of high-performance polymers – fluoropolymers, fluoroelastomers, fluorinated fluids, semi-aromatic polyamides, sulfone polymers, aromatic ultra polymers, high-barrier polymers and cross-linked high-performance compounds – for use in Aerospace, Alternative Energy, Automotive, Healthcare, Membranes, Oil & Gas, Packaging, Plumbing, Semiconductors, Wire & Cable, and other markets. Learn more at [www.solvayspecialtypolymers.com](http://www.solvayspecialtypolymers.com).

Solvay is an international industrial Group active in Chemistry. It offers a broad range of products and solutions that contribute to improving quality of life. The Group is headquartered in Brussels and its companies employ about 14,800 people in over 40 countries. In 2010, its consolidated sales amounted to EUR 7.1 billion. Solvay is listed on the NYSE Euronext stock exchange in Brussels (NYSE Euronext: [SOLB.BE](http://www.nyse.com/quote/NYSE:SOLB) - Bloomberg: [SOLB.BB](http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/SOLB:BB) - Reuters: [SOLBt.BR](http://www.reuters.com/quote/SOLB:BR)). Details are available at [www.solvay.com](http://www.solvay.com).

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### **Press Contact:**

Joseph Grande

413.684.2463

[solvayap.press@solvay.com](mailto:solvayap.press@solvay.com)

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