

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For Starion Instruments:  
Melissa Valdez  
408.522.5200 ext 309  
mvaldez@starioninstruments.com

**SOCIETY OF LAPAROENDOSCOPIC SURGEONS NAMES STARION  
INSTRUMENTS 2007 INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR**

*Starion Instruments recognized for its next-generation Tissue Ligating Shears.*

**Sunnyvale, Calif. – Sept. 13, 2007** – Starion Instruments, a leading surgical device company, has been named a 2007 Innovator of the Year by the Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons (SLS). The prestigious award recognizes Starion for its newest Tissue Ligating Shears, the TLS<sup>3</sup>, which uses the Company's innovative seal and divide technology. The award was presented during the 16th SLS Annual Meeting and Endo Expo, September 5<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco.

“We are pleased to be recognized for the second time by one of the leading organizations representing our customers,” said Kirt Kirtland, president and chief executive officer of Starion Instruments. “Starion continues to develop advanced technology to address the breadth of surgical procedures requiring tissue ligation. Our newest innovation, the TLS<sup>3</sup>, expands the ability for surgeons to seal and divide tissue without using monopolar, bipolar or ultrasonic energy.”

The TLS<sup>3</sup> uses proprietary tissue welding technology, which focuses thermal energy to simultaneously seal and divide soft tissue, minimizing collateral damage to the adjacent tissue. The TLS<sup>3</sup> features improved dissecting and sealing capabilities, a longer more tapered jaw, a newly improved ergonomic handle design and two-speed finger control for greater tissue sealing and dividing precision. Additionally, Starion's TLS<sup>3</sup> technology is integrated into a new articulating product currently under development.

**About The Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons**

The Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons was established as an educational, non-profit organization to help ensure the highest standards for the practice of laparoscopic, endoscopic and minimally invasive surgery. The Society serves surgeons from various specialties and other health professionals who are interested in advancing their expertise in the diagnostic and therapeutic uses of laparoendoscopic and minimally invasive surgical techniques. With an international membership of over 6,000 surgeons, the organization offers a unique approach to the study and education of minimally invasive surgery by bringing together different medical specialties that use the techniques and tools of minimally invasive surgery.

**About Starion Instruments**

Starion Instruments designs, manufactures and sells surgical instruments that simultaneously seal and divide tissue during surgery, employing a proprietary tissue welding technology, which requires no electricity or ultrasonic energy across tissue. Starion products are in use world wide

in a variety of cardiac, gynecology, general surgery, otolaryngology and urology procedures.  
For more information, visit the company's website at [www.starioninstruments.com](http://www.starioninstruments.com).

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