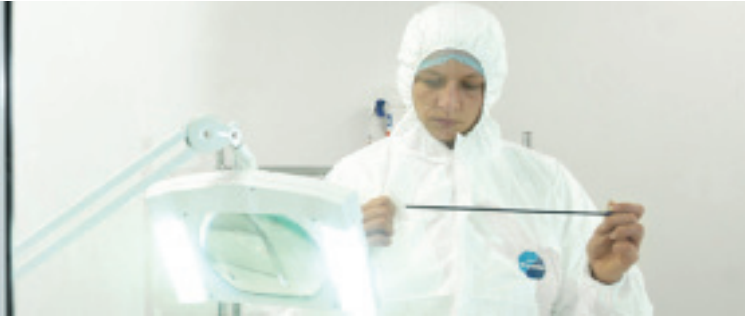


Medilink Case Study

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Surgical Innovations plc YelloPort+plus

Surgical Innovations

Leeds based Surgical Innovations - the designer and manufacturer of innovative medical devices – has developed a laparoscopic port access system YelloPort+plus, which acts as a channel into the body allowing surgeons to carry out delicate keyhole procedures.

Benefits

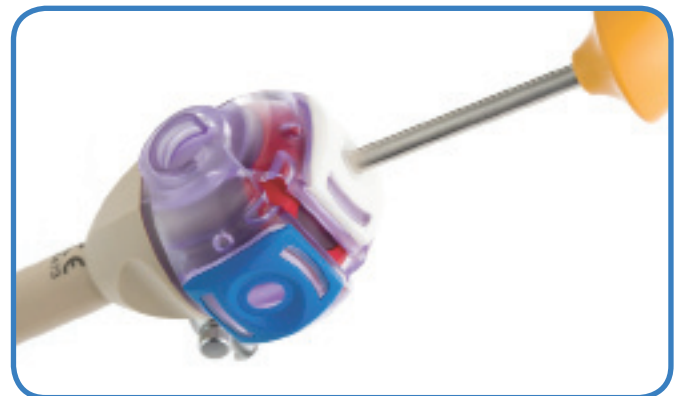
The majority of laparoscopic port access systems around the world are fully disposable. These offer clinical advantages over fully reusable devices; however this comes at a significantly increased cost.

In 2006 Surgical Innovations set out to design a device that combines both single-use and reusable elements, with the aim of providing surgeons a cost effective solution, whilst still maintaining the functionality of a fully disposal instrument.

Innovation

The lightweight device uses unique colour coded 'SwingTop' technology, which allows surgeons to use different sized instruments during surgical procedures and prevents leakage of CO2 gas during surgery.

This year YelloPort+plus was awarded the Queen's Award for Innovation, which acknowledges Surgical Innovations' technical excellence and the clinical impact it has had to surgeons globally.



Surgical Innovations plc

YelloPort+plus

Collaboration

In 2006 Surgical Innovations was awarded a £75,000 Research and Development grant from regional development agency Yorkshire Forward to help fund the development of YelloPort+plus and create the first protocol designs.

A further £4m was raised from the stock market, allowing them to revolutionize their manufacturing strategy, triple the size of their head office and integrate both design and manufacture under one roof. This financial support has also allowed the company to increase its workforce by 87% since 2008 and invest £1.3m in state-of-the-art machinery.

Through Medilink Yorkshire & Humber Surgical innovations has also raised the profile of the product globally.

"The support we received from Yorkshire Forward's R&D grant was extremely beneficial to us as it funded the design and research for the product and allowed us to produce first protocols of YelloPort+plus.

Since the product was brought to market is has been extremely successful and now through the specialist help of Medilink and UK Trade & Investment (UKTI), we are accessing new international markets throughout Europe, Latin America and the Middle East."

Graham Bowland
CEO - Surgical Innovations plc

About Surgical Innovations

The company is dedicated to meeting the needs of surgeons and clinicians and it is their vision to be a leading supplier of high quality, cost effective instrumentation all manufactured in Yorkshire.



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