



Press Release

ZEISS KINEVO team is winner of Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2020

Improving medicine through robotics and multi-layered augmentation

Jena, 25 November 2020

Dr. Michelangelo Masini and Frank Seitzinger of ZEISS Medical Technology were awarded the Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2020 (The Federal President's Award for Innovation and Technology) jointly with Professor Andreas Raabe of the Swiss Inselspital (Bern University Hospital) for their project "ZEISS KINEVO 900 Robotic Visualization System" which improves the efficiency and effectiveness of surgical procedures. German Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier presented the prize for technology and innovation in Berlin this evening to the three team representatives.

Carl Zeiss Meditec project has received an award for the first time

„We are delighted that for the first time a Carl Zeiss Meditec project has been awarded this important prize," says Dr. Ludwin Monz, President and CEO of Carl Zeiss Meditec AG and Member of the Executive Board of Carl Zeiss AG. „This underscores our aspiration to create market-shaping innovations that improve patients' quality of life and help shape medical progress." ZEISS is the first-ever company to have two candidates nominated for the Deutscher Zukunftspreis since the accolade was first bestowed back in 1997. In addition to Carl Zeiss Meditec, a team from the ZEISS Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology division was also among the best.

With the Deutscher Zukunftspreis, the Federal President honors outstanding research and development projects. The jury's decision is based on the degree of scientific and technical innovation and the potential to translate this achievement into future-proof jobs. A multi-stage selection process preceded the nomination and the award ceremony.



The three prize-winners of Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2020 for the "ZEISS KINEVO 900" (from left to right): Dr. Michelangelo Masini, Professor Andreas Raabe and Frank Seitzinger, photo: © Deutscher Zukunftspreis / Ansgar Pudenz

Carl Zeiss Meditec award-winning project addresses demographic megatrends

We live in an aging society, which means ever more people will require medical treatment. Meanwhile, the population continues to grow – and an increasing number of people are gaining access to medical care. Healthcare systems across the world can only address this growing need if they become more efficient and more effective. Modern technologies like digitalization and artificial intelligence support healthcare providers as they administer these treatments. As does KINEVO® 900 from ZEISS, which is used in spinal and neurosurgery.

Comprising of more than 100 innovations and 180 patents, the system marries robotics, digital visualization and modern assistance solutions. The development team cooperated with clinical partners around the world to design a system that allows two additional modes in addition to the microscopic application. The hybrid function of the ZEISS KINEVO 900 offers an eyepiece based or a digital display for visualization of the surgical field. Depending on the application, the surgeons can decide whether they want to use a classical microscopic approach or whether they want to work sitting or standing in an upright position on the monitor, for example for ergonomic reasons.

Another key element of the ZEISS KINEVO 900 innovation is the QEVO® micro-inspection tool from ZEISS, which allows the surgeon to look around corners, since the microscope's visual axis is always restricted by the optical path. Now surgeons can easily and fully integrated look around a blood vessel or look around the corner to see if the entire tumor has been removed. Endoscopically, the surgeon's field of vision is thus considerably broadened once again.



Many institutions have recognized the benefits of the Robotic Visualization System® to make surgical treatment more effective and more efficient. Since the ZEISS KINEVO 900 was launched in early 2017, it has been granted regulatory approval in more than 100 countries. It is used in over 300,000 surgical procedures every year.

An innovation ready for the future

ZEISS KINEVO 900 is a future-ready platform that is constantly being optimized and expanded. First technologies are already available today. Sharing images via streaming technologies and using AI algorithms to recognize patterns are just a few of the features that were recently made available. "The continuous search for value-adding innovations is an important part of the ZEISS DNA," says Dirk Brunner, Head of the Microsurgery strategic business unit.



The ZEISS KINEVO 900 Robotic Visualization System improves the efficiency and effectiveness of surgical procedures.



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Brief Profile

Carl Zeiss Meditec AG (ISIN: DE0005313704) is one of the world's leading medical technology companies and is listed on the German MDAX and TecDax stock indices. The company supplies innovative technologies and application-oriented solutions designed to help doctors improve the quality of life of their patients. It provides complete packages of solutions for the diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases, including implants and consumables. In microsurgery, the company provides innovative visualization solutions. With approximately 3,232 employees worldwide, the company generated revenue totaling €1,459.3 m in fiscal year 2018/19 (ended 30 September 2019).

The company is headquartered in Jena, Germany, and has subsidiaries in Germany and abroad: more than 50 percent of its employees are based in the US, Japan, Spain and France. The Center for Application and Research (CARIn) in Bangalore, India, and the Carl Zeiss Innovations Center for Research and Development in Shanghai, China, strengthen the company's presence in these rapidly developing economies. Around 41 percent of Carl Zeiss Meditec shares are in free float. The remaining approx. 59 percent are held by Carl Zeiss AG, one of the world's leading companies in the optical and optoelectronic industries.

For more information, visit: www.zeiss.com/med and www.zeiss.com/president-award

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