

MED-EL Launches World's First Single-Unit Processor for Cochlear Implants

RONDO™ processor combines control unit, battery pack, and coil into a compact, single-unit design



April 10, 2013 – (Durham, NC) – Hearing implant leader, MED-EL

Corporation USA, today announced the launch of the world's first single-unit processor for cochlear implants, the RONDO™. For the first time, the control-unit, battery pack and coil are combined into one single unit. The announcement was made at the Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meetings (COSM) in Orlando, Fla.

"RONDO is one of the most innovative and highly-anticipated cochlear implant developments that has been brought to market by MED-EL," said Richard Collette, President and CEO, MED-EL Corporation USA. "This launch continues MED-EL's tradition of developing revolutionary solutions designed to fit the unique hearing loss situation and lifestyle of our recipients."

The fully-integrated design makes RONDO simple to wear, and is especially comfortable for people who wear glasses of any kind. With no cable and fewer parts, users benefit from enhanced durability.

RONDO is based on the proven OPUS Audio Processor platform and features the same signature MAESTRO System Software technologies. This includes Automatic Sound Management, which ensures optimal hearing in changing and challenging listening situations, all without requiring the user to make program adjustments. The processor also features FineHearing®¹ Technology, which provides an even more detailed hearing experience. The new processor comes with MED-EL's exclusive FineTuner remote control, used to adjust program, volume, sensitivity and a variety of other listening parameters.

Staying true to the company's commitment to forward compatibility, RONDO can be used with MED-EL CONCERT, SONATA, PULSAR and C40+ implants, and has been designed for compatibility with future sound coding strategies.

RONDO is available in four colors: Anthracite, Nordic Grey, Creme and Ebony. The processor is covered by MED-EL USA's industry-leading standard 5-year warranty for all major external parts, with no special enrollment necessary. Current MED-EL users have the option of exchanging an OPUS 1 or OPUS 2 Audio Processor for a RONDO.

For a limited time, new RONDO recipients – either new patients or current patients who exchange their existing MED-EL processor for a RONDO – will receive a complimentary Bluetooth-compatible neckloop. This special promotion is only available in the USA. For details about the RONDO and exchange program, hearing loss professionals, candidates and existing users can contact MED-EL toll free at (888) MED-EL-CI (633-3524), or at implants-USA@medel.com.

About MED-EL

MED-EL Medical Electronics is a leading provider of hearing implant systems worldwide. The company was founded by Austrian scientists and industry pioneers Ingeborg and Erwin Hochmair, who together developed the world's first microelectronic, multichannel cochlear implant in 1977. In 1990, they laid the foundation for the successful growth of the company when they hired their first employees. To date, the privately held company now has over 1400 employees around the world.

The cochlear implant was and remains the first replacement of a human sense, the sense of hearing. Today, MED-EL offers the widest range of implantable solutions worldwide to treat the various degrees of hearing loss, including cochlear, middle ear and bone conduction implant systems as well as a system for combined electric and acoustic stimulation.

MED-EL's mission is to overcome hearing loss as a barrier to communication and quality of life. Individuals in more than 100 countries enjoy the gift of hearing with a MED-EL Hearing Implant System. www.medel.com

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¹ FSP is not indicated for use by prelingual children in the USA.