

News Release

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LUBBOCK MANUFACTURER LICENSES ANTIMICROBIAL TECHNOLOGY FOR ORTHODONTIC DEVICES

(LUBBOCK, TX)- Lubbock based ClassOne Orthodontics and Selenium, Ltd., an Emergent Technologies, Inc. (ETI) portfolio company, announce the signing of a license agreement for utilization of selenium coatings on orthodontic devices to prevent bacteria formation. That formation impedes tooth movement during orthodontic treatment (braces) and can often lead to periodontal tissue breakdown and tooth decalcification. **The Lubbock Regional BioScience Initiative, a Program of the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance, will host a press conference December 5, 2006 at 1:30 pm at the Lubbock Club to announce this news.**

The platform technology, developed by Dr. Ted Reid of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Dr. Julian Spallholz of Texas Tech University, utilizes anti-microbial properties that may prove revolutionary to the orthodontics industry.

ClassOne has identified a substantial unmet need within the orthodontic segment of the dental industry market and will work with scientists at Selenium, Ltd. in Lubbock to incorporate the SeLECT™ technology into basic orthodontic items such as brackets, archwires, molar bands, adhesive materials, and other devices to prevent the formation of plaque on or around the bracket area. Both companies see this as only one of the many applications and expected future successes of the SeLECT™ technology.

“We are excited to see such a promising technology from Texas Tech University gain commercial acceptance in the biomedical field with a strong West Texas-based company, ClassOne Orthodontics. This validates ETI’s unique accelerated commercialization business model, and we expect similar successes with the SeLECT™ technology in other diverse fields, including contact lenses and antifouling marine paint,” said Kris Looney, Managing Director of Selenium, Ltd.

“It is important to the future growth of our company in West Texas to have access to technologies that are commercialized from within Texas Tech,” said Kenny Gallagher, the President of ClassOne Orthodontics. “Innovation is a critical factor in continued growth in our industry and technologies like this are what drive expansion in any industry,” Gallagher went on to say.

Selenium, Ltd., one of four Lubbock-based life science portfolio companies of ETI features a technology that was commercialized from within the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. ETI is a unique life science venture model, headquartered in Austin with Lubbock offices, that specializes in forming, funding, commercializing, and managing companies for the purpose of converting institutional and university-based technology into high return ventures. ETI’s third fund, a West Texas regional private equity fund, provided the necessary capital for commercialization of the technology from within the university system.

- ClassOne Orthodontics (www.classoneortho.com) is a medical device manufacturer known for its innovative approaches to market needs.
- Selenium, Ltd. (www.selenbio.com) is a biotechnology company focused on commercializing antimicrobial technology for medical device and industrial coatings and other biological applications.
- Key words: Orthodontics, Orthodontia, Lubbock, West Texas, Antimicrobial