



Theken Spine
Corporate Communications
283 E. Waterloo Road
Akron, OH 44319
Web site: www.thekenspine.com

Contact:
Rachael Smith
Phone: 330-773-7677
Fax: 330-773-7697
Email: rsmith@thekenspine.com

THEKEN SPINE APPOINTS BEN R. SHAPPLEY AS PRESIDENT

AKRON, OH July 15, 2005 - Theken Spine recently announced the appointment of Ben R. Shappley as its president. Mr. Shappley has more than 24 years of orthopaedic and neurosurgical implant experience with management and senior management responsibilities. Mr. Shappley has significant global business development and acquisition experience. He has also successfully raised private equity and institutional funds for orthopaedic concerns. Most recently, he was the vice president and chief marketing officer of Therics Corporation, a Princeton, NJ-based osteobiologics company that has been acquired by one of the Theken group of companies. Prior to that, Mr. Shappley founded and served as the president and chief executive officer of Orthomatrix, Inc., an orthopaedic trauma device company that acquired its beginning assets from Wright Medical Technology. Mr. Shappley has also served in senior management roles with Wright Medical Technology, Applied Osteo Systems, Medtronic Sofamor Danek, American Medical Electronics and Smith & Nephew. Mr. Shappley was named "Executive of the Year" for Memphis and Shelby County in 2001, he also received the "CEO Leadership Award" presented by the Memphis Chamber of Commerce in 2002. Mr. Shappley is a founding charter member of the Institute for Orthopaedic Enlightenment. He currently holds seven orthopaedic implant patents. Mr. Shappley attended LaSalle University and Memphis State University and holds a BS degree in Business Management.

Based in Akron, Ohio, the Theken group of companies - Theken Spine, Theken Orthopaedic, Theken Disc and Therics - specialize in pioneering spinal implant and osteobiologic technologies that improve spinal surgical techniques benefiting patients as well as surgeons. Theken provides leading edge, comprehensive product lines that offer surgeons peace of mind through steadfast product reliability and cost effective patient care. Products include cervical plates, pedicle screws, spacers, degenerative/deformity, trauma and osteobiologic implant devices. Theken also leads the market in next-generation artificial disc replacement technology.