DuraHeart™ Third-Generation Left Ventricular Assist System Featured at 23rd Annual Meeting of the European Association for Cardio-thoracic Surgery

Terumo Heart, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Terumo Corporation, today announced it will feature the latest developments in its advanced DuraHeart™ Left-Ventricular Assist System at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS), Vienna, Austria, October 17-21.

Ann Arbor, Mich. (PRWEB) October 14, 2009 -- Terumo Heart, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Terumo Corporation, today announced it will feature the latest developments in its advanced DuraHeart™ Left-Ventricular Assist System at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS), Vienna, Austria, October 17-21.

The DuraHeart LVASis a third-generation mechanical circulatory support device designed for long-term patient use. The DuraHeart LVASincorporates a centrifugal flow rotary pump with an active magnetically levitated impeller featuring three position sensors and magnetic coils to optimize blood flow, while minimizing device wear and tear.

The DuraHeart LVAScarries a CE Mark and is commercially available in Europe. It is currently being evaluated in the DuraHeart Pivotal U.S. Trial for Bridge to Transplant. The 140-patient U.S. trial will involve up to 40 centers. The device has also completed its clinical trial enrollment for its future submission for review and approval in Japan.

"The DuraHeart LVASis unique when compared to second-generation devices which use mechanical bearings within the blood chamber to provide circulatory support," said William Pinon, President and CEO, Terumo Heart. "Our technology delivers magnetic levitation for a friction-free environment that ensures long-term durability. In fact, to date our data set includes more than 78 combined patient years with some of our earliest patients remaining on the device for over four years."

The DuraHeart LVASoffers competitive advantages over existing technology. The impeller's magnetic levitation eliminates premature friction wear and allows a wide gap between blood contact surface areas, enabling blood to flow through the pump unimpeded in a smooth non-turbulent fashion. In addition, a hydrodynamic failsafe, that enables the pump to continue working under conditions that might cause other devices to fail, provides reassurance to patients and physicians.

"We are excited to bring DuraHeart to our customers during this important meeting," said Pinon. "As we expand our clinical experience worldwide and prepare to engage new centers in new markets, feedback from our customers will ensure we stay on track and offer the best treatment option."

The EACTS meeting offers Terumo Heart an excellent opportunity to showcase its unique technology and gather valuable feedback from cardiac surgeon customers in the field of Heart Failure surgery. To learn more about the DuraHeart LVASprogram, please visit Terumo Heart representatives at exhibit booth number 32 during the meeting.
About Heart Failure
More than 22 million people suffer from heart failure worldwide with approximately one million new patients diagnosed annually. In the setting of an aging global population, heart failure is the number one reason for hospitalization. The most severely ill patients need heart transplants in order to recover. More than 8,000 people worldwide are on the list of eligible candidates for heart transplants annually, but less than 3,000 will receive a transplant each year. A large number of people who suffer from severe heart failure do not qualify for transplantation due to other health issues. An alternative for these patients is access to artificial mechanical assist devices. Left Ventricular Assist Systems are a type of mechanical circulatory device specifically designed to improve the quality of life of the patients waiting for donor hearts, as well as those who are ineligible for a heart transplant.

About Terumo Heart, Inc.
Terumo Heart, Inc. is a U.S. subsidiary of Terumo Corporation with headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The company’s focus is the innovation and introduction of products to improve the quality of healthcare for heart failure patients. Terumo Corporation, located in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading developer, manufacturer and global marketer of a wide array of medical products. DuraHeart is limited to investigational use only in the United States, and is CE marked in Europe. For more information visit www.terumohart.com.

###
Contact Information
Robert Murphy
Terumo Heart
http://www.terumoheart.com
908-276-0777

Martin Schildhouse
Terumo Heart
http://www.terumoheart.com
305-606-3577

Online Web 2.0 Version
You can read the online version of this press release here.