



## **SORIN GROUP: 500 PATIENTS ALREADY HAVE BENEFITED FROM ELA'S NONINVASIVE INNOVATIVE LOOP RECORDER**

***SpiderFlash™'s 30 days autonomy and 30 min ECG per event represents an alternative to implantable loop recorders***

**Paris, France – December 13, 2005** — ELA Medical, a Sorin Group Company and innovative leader in the development of cardiac rhythm management (CRM) and diagnostic systems, today announced that more than 200 SpiderFlash™ loop event recorders have been distributed in Europe since its European introduction last quarter. As of today more than 500 patients have already benefited from this novel technology.

SpiderFlash is the first loop event recorder that is based on an external SD card. With its extended loop memory and 30 days' monitoring capability SpiderFlash is a real alternative to implantable loop recorders. In addition, SpiderFlash is a cost effective monitoring device because it is both non-invasive (i.e. does not require surgery) and re-usable.

“SpiderFlash fills the critical gap between conventional ECG recorders (so far limited to 2 to 8 days) and implantable devices”, says Dr Pierre Maison-Blanche, Hôpital La Riboisière, Cardiology Department, Paris. Our patients with infrequent symptoms can now be easily monitored even during a two-month period, with an amazing ECG loop memory. SpiderFlash™ represents a real breakthrough in documenting the ECG at the time of symptoms”.

SpiderFlash event loop recorder can monitor cardiac events for up to 30 consecutive days. It can be manually activated by the patient to record ECG strips immediately before and after a symptom is detected. Cardiac events can be recorded up to 15 minutes prior to patient activation and 15 minutes after activation. This is especially valuable because SpiderFlash can record ECG strips even if the recording is activated after a fainting episode, when the patient regains consciousness. With ELA's new loop recorder, ECG recordings can be activated more than 100 times.

SpiderFlash can be used to diagnose symptoms that may be heart-related, such as fainting, fatigue, shortness of breath or palpitations or to help identify irregular beats (arrhythmias) occurring less than once a day or week.

Because SpiderFlash can be worn in a necklace position, the patient can easily hook and unhook it at home.

The device's light weight (60 g with battery included) makes it especially comfortable for the patient. The EventScope software is designed to analyze the events recorded by SpiderFlash on a long period of time.

Thanks to the Hook-up software, physicians can easily program many recording parameters and check the quality of ECG recordings.

“With its outstanding ECG loop memory and monitoring capabilities, ELA's SpiderFlash event recorder is a real alternative to implantable loop recorders for both the patient and the physician”, said Andre-Michel Ballester, President of Sorin Group Cardiac Rhythm Management (CRM) Business Unit.

**Information about ELA Medical:**

*ELA Medical, a Sorin Group Company, designs and manufactures implantable pacemakers and ICDs, leads, Holter equipment and electrophysiology catheters and markets them in Europe, the U.S. and Japan.*

**Information about the Sorin Group:**

*Sorin Group (Reuters code: SORN.MI), a world leader in the development of medical technologies for cardiac surgery, offers innovative therapies for cardiac rhythm dysfunctions, interventional cardiology and the treatment of chronic kidney diseases. Sorin Group includes: Dideco, CarboMedics, COBE Cardiovascular, Stöckert, Mitroflow, ELA Medical, Sorin Biomedica, Bellco and Soludia. Sorin Group has about 4,700 employees working at facilities in more than 80 countries throughout the world to serve over 5,000 public and private treatment centers.*

For additional information, please visit our website: [www.sorin.com](http://www.sorin.com)

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