



Medical robotics specialist Axilum Robotics announces the delivery of US Patent 8,303,478 securing access to US market of its robot for Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

September 3rd 2013, Strasbourg (France) – Medical robotics specialist Axilum Robotics announces the delivery of US Patent 8,303,478 for its robot for Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS).

The delivery of US patent 8,303,478 from the United States Patent and Trademarks Office follows the patent application filed jointly by CNRS, INSA and the University of Strasbourg, France on June 26th 2007. Exclusive exploitation rights have been granted to Axilum Robotics. This patent thus secures the company access to US market for the commercialization of its robot.

This patent recognizes the innovative design of the robot, developed specifically for TMS and comprising a unique hemispheric arm architecture. It is intended to automate this non-invasive, painless brain stimulation technique, currently implemented manually, with a high level of safety and with improved accuracy and repeatability.

There is a growing range of applications for TMS, from neuroscience research to the treatment of neurological and psychiatric disorders such as drug-resistant major depression. TMS has already been approved for the latter in a number of countries and now qualifies for health insurance refunds in the United States.

"This patent rewards the efforts and the inventiveness of ICube researchers, three of whom are cofounders of our company. For Axilum Robotics, it represents a great opportunity for our commercial development in the United States" comments Michel Berg, President and CEO of Axilum Robotics.

"The next step is now to get FDA clearance for our robot".

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About Axilum Robotics

Axilum Robotics is a spin-off from the ICube¹ Medical Robotics team, and was founded in 2011 by three research professors, Michel de Mathelin, Bernard Bayle and Pierre Renaud, alongside two engineers with PhD in robotics, Benjamin Maurin and Romuald Ginhoux, and Michel Berg, a medical doctor with a degree from HEC business school. Based on an ICube proof of concept, the company began developing a TMS assistance robot with a view to its commercialization. In a fast-growing market, Axilum Robotics' ambition is to become the global leader in robots for TMS.

Two initial TMS centres, Prof. Haffen's Department of Psychiatry at the Besançon University Hospital, France, and Dr. David's team at the Institute of Neurosciences in Grenoble, France, have recently been equipped with Axilum Robotics' robots.

Axilum Robotics is leading a consortium including ICube and the Streb & Weil Company. This project has been certified by Alsace Biovalley life science cluster and has been funded by French Interministerial Unique Fund (FUI), Oséo, Alsace Region, Urban Community of Strasbourg (CuS) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

End of 2012, Inserm Transfert Initiative, together with scientist and entrepreneur Jacques Lewiner and SODIV Alsace, have jointly invested in the Axilum Robotics project.

www.axilumrobotics.com

¹ ICube: Laboratoire des Sciences de l'Ingénieur, de l'Informatique et de l'Imagerie (Laboratory for engineering, computer science and imaging), headed by Michel de Mathelin.