



# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ASCENSION ORTHOPEDICS INTRODUCES THE SILICONE PIP IMPLANT SYSTEM**

**AUSTIN, TX — February 13, 2009:** Ascension Orthopedics, Inc., a leader in orthopedic extremity implants, announces the release of the Ascension® Silicone PIP System at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. This system features the smallest pre-flexed silicone proximal interphalangeal (PIP) implant offered in the orthopedic market today.

The Ascension® Silicone PIP has an anatomic pre-flexed design reproducing the natural resting position of the PIP joint and is designed to relieve pain, restore motion, and improve the cosmetic appearance of the joint. It is available in six sizes with custom color-coded instrumentation including cutting broaches and a captured osteotomy guide.

"This new system compliments our line of implants for the hand. We are excited to offer a full range of implants for the MCP and PIP joints, both in PyroCarbon and in Silicone," states Andrew J. Miclot, President and CEO of Ascension.

Ascension Orthopedics secured \$21 million in a Series D financing in January 2008. Frazier Healthcare Ventures lead this round of funding as the majority investor. "We appreciate Frazier's investment in Ascension. Their commitment to Ascension has enabled us to develop this exciting new system," said Miclot.

### **About Ascension Orthopedics, Inc**

Ascension Orthopedics was founded in Austin, Texas in 1996. The first product of Ascension was an innovative pyrolytic carbon total joint replacement for the MCP joint of the hand. The company has since increased its joint replacement product line to include implants for the shoulder, elbow, wrist, fingers and toes. Ascension's mission is to develop state-of-the-art orthopedic products for upper and lower extremities to help patients suffering from pain and dysfunction. Ascension Orthopedics sells product in the United States and in more than 23 countries worldwide and is dedicated to ***Transforming Extremities***. For further information, please visit <http://www.ascensionortho.com/>.

**About Frazier Healthcare**

Investing since 1991, Frazier Healthcare Ventures is one of the nation's leading providers of venture and growth equity capital to emerging biopharma, medical device and healthcare service companies. With more than \$1.8 billion under management, Frazier Healthcare has invested in over 100 healthcare companies that cover the entire developmental spectrum from seed stage to PIPEs to acquisitions of cash generating companies. Frazier Healthcare is nationally known for its highly experienced 23 member investment team, which collectively brings to bear a tremendous breadth of healthcare industry and investment experience. The team's expertise encompasses product development and launch, clinical trial implementation and design, academic research, clinical practice, industry operating experience, and business development. For more information, please visit <http://www.frazierhealthcare.com/>.